

Climate conference heats up global issue

By Katie Flagg
NEWS EDITOR

Students, professors and leaders in the environmental movement gathered at Middlebury College at the end of January to discuss strategies for renewing public interest in the global warming crisis. With recent February temperatures hitting an unusual near-record high of 50 degrees, climate change seems an appropriate topic of conversation on campus.

But during the Jan. 25-27 conference, at least, students bundled up in heavy coats to brave sub-zero temperatures as they hurried to lectures and presentations. The conference, titled "What Works? New Strategies for a Melting Planet," strove to identify methods for renewing public concern regarding climate change. The conference, which gained national attention, was designed and organized by Jonathan Isham, assistant professor of Economics at the College, along with help from the 25 students in Isham's Winter Term "Building the Climate Movement" class.

The class and conference have been in the works for about a year, according to Isham, though the inspiration for the class came from a previous Winter Term course Isham conducted. Two years ago he worked with a group of students to look at the College campus's carbon footprint. This year, Isham decided to turn his focus away from the College community and instead work with larger social movements.

Students in Isham's seminar spent the first few weeks of January reading books and articles on climate change and social movements. Students then engaged in six service-learning projects, projects that ranged from building statewide climate campaigns

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 4

BOARDING FOR DIPLOMAS



Sixiao Huo

Celebrating a triumphant end to four years at Middlebury, graduating Feb Cassidy Freeman participates in the traditional Feb ski-down ceremony on Jan. 29 at the Middlebury Snow Bowl. For full coverage of the Feb Celebration, see pages 12 and 13.

Military to recruit on campus

By Caroline S. Stauffer
NEWS EDITOR

Captain David Doucette of the United States Marine Corps was on hand Tuesday evening to explain the US' policy of "don't ask don't tell" concerning homosexuality in the armed forces in a standing-room-only McCardell Bicentennial Hall lecture room. After completing the presentation, the military was granted the right to recruit

on the Middlebury College campus.

The College's Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer Statement/College Recruitment Policies include a provision stating that when a potential employer refuses to or cannot sign the College's recruiting form, it can still recruit on campus after holding an open meeting with the college community to explain why it cannot conform to the nondiscrimina-

tion policy.

This is the first instance in which a potential recruiter has opted to hold such a meeting, according to Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson, who moderated the discussion.

It is also the first time the military has attempted to recruit on Middlebury's campus since the implementation of the non-

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE 3

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Sixiao Huo

Sitting down to eat after surviving incredibly long lines, students enjoy the new Atwater Commons Dining Hall. The facility served its first meal at dinner Tuesday night and will hopefully alleviate the crowds that have recently plagued Ross and Proctor Dining Halls.

Public safety ups dorm security

By Katie Flagg
NEWS EDITOR

Students across campus are fumbling in their pockets for cards after a Feb. 5 announcement from the Department of Public Safety unveiling a new schedule for the residence hall locking system. As of Sunday, all residence halls have been locked at nine o'clock at night, and dormitories are not accessible without a Middlebury College proximate access card until seven a.m. Prior to this announcement, residence halls locked at 11 p.m.

The announcement and change in policy follow another intrusion in the Ross Commons complex. On Jan. 30, Public Safety released a Community Safety Alert, addressing an intrusion in LaForce Hall. At approximately six a.m., a student on the third floor of LaForce found a male lying on the floor next to the bed. The resident confronted the male, but the suspect left the room before the student could identify the intruder.

The crime alert described the

suspect as a black male with a light complexion between 18 and 19 years old. The suspect is 5'10" or 5'11" with dark hair between one and two inches long. At the time of the intrusion he was wearing a reddish shirt and unknown pants and shoes.

Students have already expressed general dissatisfaction with the new locking schedule. "It's a pain in the butt to have the doors locked at 9 o'clock at night," said Haylee Freeman '06.5.

At the heart of student annoyance with the new locking schedule is the widespread belief that intrusions are not serious offenses. Students have been less than thrilled by the influx of Community Safety Alerts, and many now view the occurrences as laughable.

"There's a lot of [crime alerts], which is not a good sign, but on the other hand it seems like after the first couple of times it became sort of a joke," said Jen Williams '07.

In less extreme circumstances,

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY ERI NOSAKA, KATIE FLAGG AND CAROLINE STAUFFER

Bread Loaf to offer new international fellowship

The Bread Loaf Writer's Conference has continually tried to foster young writers who have expressed an avid interest in writing. This year the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference has created a new fellowship that will be granted to an African or Caribbean writer. The fellowship was founded by Michael Fairbanks and is named the Michael Marylee Fairbanks International Fellowship. Fairbanks intended for this fellowship to promote the growth of nations and communities.

Writers are eligible to apply if they have published between one to two books in English within the past four years. The books may be in the genre of poetry, fiction or non-fiction. The writer will attend the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference which will be on August 17-28. The fellowship will pay for the conference fee as well as travel expenses.

Michael Collier, the director of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, believes that it will ameliorate the program. "It is a distinctive addition to the group of prestigious annual Bread Loaf Fellowships that have been awarded to emerging writers from the United States for more than eight decades" said Collier.

MLA honors former Arabic school director

Mahmoud Al-Batal, former director of the Middlebury College Arabic School, recently received the Award for Distinguished Service in the Profession from the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages (ADFL). The award was presented at the annual conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA) and honors scholars for contributions to the field of foreign languages and literature.

Al-Batal is credited with transforming the Middlebury Arabic School into the leading summer program for teaching Arabic in the country. Since its foundation in 1982, the Middlebury Arabic School has played host to nearly 2,000 students, many of whom have pursued advanced studies in Arabic at programs such as the Center for Arabic Study Abroad in Cairo.

Al-Batal served as the director of the school from 1990 until 1998, and has returned for the last two summers to lead an Arabic Teacher Training Institute. This institute — a collaboration between the Middlebury Arabic School and the National Middle Eastern Languages Resource Center — immerses students in both Arabic language and classes in language instruction.

Al-Batal is also renowned compiling a popular textbook series for teaching Arabic, "Al-kitaab fii ta'alum al-'arabiyya: The Book for Teaching Arabic." The series is credited with establishing standards in Arabic language instruction.

The MLA held a session in Al-Batal's honor, and in attendance were Professors Michael E. Geisler, incoming dean of Middlebury's Language Schools and Schools Abroad, and Michael R. Katz, the retiring dean under whom Al-Batal served. Also in attendance was professor Mahmoud Abdalia, current director of the Arabic School and professor at Wayne State University.

Al-Batal is currently teaching at Emory University as a professor of Arabic in the Department of Middle Eastern Studies. He is also the director of the Emory College Language Program and is currently at work on a project developing online Arabic listening materials using authentic material from Arab media sources.

Research grants given

Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of Physics Rich Wolfson is scheduled for a live broadcast interview on National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation: Science Friday" on Feb. 18 from 3-4 p.m. Wolfson has received a grant to fund travel for his research project From Sun to Earth: Studies in Terrestrial Climate from the Vermont Space Grant Consortium.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology Tom Manley also received a grant from the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab for his new project Detailed Hydrodynamic Investigation of the Inland Sea of Lake Champlain. Associate Professor of Geology Pat Manley and other international colleagues are also involved in the project.

DRS shelved for 'fine' china

Dining services recruits student dish monitors

By Thomas C. Drescher
NEWS EDITOR

The documentation in the handbook has existed for years with words about fines for removing dishes from the dining rooms. The entire concept is being molded day by day.

Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette announced in a recent all-campus e-mail that, as of Feb. 6, College Handbook policy regarding the removal of dishes from dining facilities will once again be implemented. Biette's pronouncement came in the wake of the cancellation of the ultimately ineffectual Dish Recovery System (DRS).

According to the Middlebury College Handbook, attempting to remove dishes, utensils or food from dining facilities will result in a minimum \$35 fine and additional "disciplinary proceedings." Biette pointed out that the handbook language has always been there, but enforcement difficulties and the adoption of DRS last year made dishware removal/theft fines and related punitive action virtually obsolete.

In the spirit of other policy-violation fines, students will be billed by the College for infractions. Entire residence halls will also be charged for unclaimed stolen dishware under the heading of "dorm damage." According to Biette's e-mail, Dining Services plans to hire students to work as door monitors during meals. Additionally, diners who wish to leave with dishes will be required to sign out and sign in.

According to SGA Director of Environmental Affairs Clare O'Reilly, SGA members, administrators and Dining Services and Recycling Center staff met during December and January and collaborated on the decision to discontinue DRS and adopt a new fine-based system that will hopefully avoid what Biette called the "room service mentality" propagated unintentionally by DRS. O'Reilly pointed out

that DRS was not a failure *per se*, but its collapse was the result of overuse and to an extent misunderstanding on the part of students.

Student Government Association (SGA) President Andrew Jacobi '05 cited a number of reasons for the cancellation of DRS, including an increase in the number of dishes collected by the recycling center, complaints from Facilities Planning that the overflowing DRS bins were unsightly and even reports of rodent problems associated with the buildup of dirty dishes in Forest Hall. In general, however, Jacobi pointed out that the program "seemed to condone taking dishes out of the dining halls, while Dining Services has never allowed students to do so. [They] agreed to work with the SGA for the program despite this concern, because they were willing to do just about anything to decrease the amount of lost dishware."

Though he sympathizes

with Dining Services and readily acknowledges that DRS was unsuccessful, Jacobi also said he commiserates with busy students who are expected to function in

The new system is necessary to keep the dishes where they belong: in the dining hall.

—Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette

an environment that often demands full academic and extracurricular engagement but does not necessarily provide accessible, on-the-go dining solutions. Biette also recognized the legitimacy of

this position, but suggested a number of reasonable alternatives to swiping dishes. Walking out of a dining hall with an ice cream cone or a piece of fruit is completely acceptable, Biette said, as is filling a Nalgene or insulated mug with a dining hall libation.

Jacobi said that Dining Service's decision to hire door monitors was made "precisely because it was less expensive" than replacing dishes. Biette estimated that it would cost about \$14,000 to employ student door monitors — a trim figure compared to the more than \$80,000 spent on plates, cups, glasses, etc. last year.

Biette, O'Reilly and others reiterated their request that students return missing dishes and refrain from taking them in the future, though now there exists true incentive to follow the rules: fear of fines. Biette acknowledges that the new system is "being molded day by day," but asserts that it "is necessary to keep the dishes where they belong: in the dining halls."



Ari Joseph

Since the Dish Recovery program no longer exists, students will soon dine in the Proctor Dining Hall while student dish monitors stand guard outside.

This Week in Middlebury History

"College News Briefs"

Commons adopt lounges

As part of the implementation of the commons plan, commons were invited to recommend a common lounge and suggest a list of capital improvements to better the lounge environment. "We are well aware of the shortage of lounges," said Kathy Ebner. "Our goal [for next year] is to improve and enhance available lounges." Commons have suggested trophy cases and the displaying of student art. These changes, said Ebner, would create a "more hospitable, warmer place for students to hang out" and also be the "heart of the commons" where student groups can meet or hold activities.

SGA passes bill requiring

joint ticket for president and vice president

The SGA passed a bill that requires students running for the positions of president and vice president to run on the same ticket. SGA President John Felton '99 and Vice President Jason Oleet '00.5 initiated the bill, which was ratified on January 24.

Emergency phones installed in parking lots

Over winter break, Facilities Management and Telephone Services installed eight outdoor phones around campus. Sometime in early spring, the Task Force plans to debut the Safe Rides program, which will provide a confidential radio-dispatched rides service from Sunday through Thursday night. The service will be completely student-run.

Vol. 97, Issue 12

Thurs. Feb. 11, 1999

College confronts US Title 10 amidst protest

Marine defends government policy toward homosexuals in armed forces

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

discrimination policy.

After Hanson urged the audience to engage in an appropriate and respectful conversation, Doucette offered a 15-minute explanation of U.S. Code Title 10, which explains why homosexuals are not allowed to enter the armed forces. In this document, the term homosexual is defined as "any person, regardless of sex, who engages in, attempts to engage in, has a propensity to engage in, or intends to engage in homosexual acts, and includes the terms 'gay' and 'lesbian.'" The policy was changed in 1993 and continued to exclude homosexuals, but also prohibited the military from ever asking the sexual orientation of recruits and members.

"I'm here to find future leaders for the Marine Corps," Doucette said, emphasizing that future pilots were especially sought after. Doucette pursued the opportunity to recruit at Middlebury at the request of a student who wanted classmates to know about educational programs to help students pursue commissions with the U.S. Marine Corps.

Doucette stressed that he was not on site to debate the issue of homosexuals in the military, but to serve as a messenger to explain the policy. He noted that while there were members of the Middlebury College community serving in the military, the number was lower than that of comparable schools. He cited Colgate specifically as having a higher number of enlistees.

Following Doucette's presentation, a 45-minute questioning period ensued. Inquiries from students and staff pertained to the deployment status of homosexuals, the effects of "don't ask don't tell" on women and the possibility of a person's sexual orientation being discovered through coercion. Copies of Title 10 were distributed to the audience.

Doucette set up an information table on Wednesday, Feb. 9 and has permission to conduct individual interviews with interested students on campus Thursday evening. A group of students began planning a protest response upon hearing news of the planned recruitment events. Members of Middlebury

Open Queer Alliance (MOQA), the Middlebury allies and other interested parties convened Sunday evening in Chellis House to discuss a plan of action. They distributed handouts at the meeting Tuesday that included suggested questions to ask and facts about gays and lesbians in the military.

One of the organizers, JS Woodward '06,

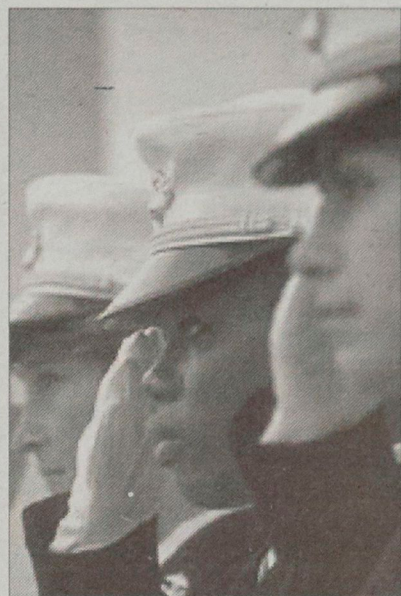
Any employer who would like to recruit at Middlebury must be able to sign our recruitment policy. If they cannot, they should not be allowed to recruit at Midd or use our sources."

— JS Woodward '06

said the goal of the protest action was, "to change the policy so that any employer who would like to recruit at Middlebury must be able to sign our recruitment policy. If they cannot, they should not be allowed to recruit at Midd or use our sources," he said.

The College's policy "prohibits the discrimination in employment, or in admission or access to its educational or extracurricular programs, activities, or facilities, on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, place of birth, service in the armed forces or against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability."

As of press time, a silent protest on Proctor Terrace was planned for Wednesday, Feb. 9, coinciding with the time frame in which the military was to recruit. They were to stand in mock military formation and use scarves, handkerchiefs and bandanas to blind, deafen and gag the protestors



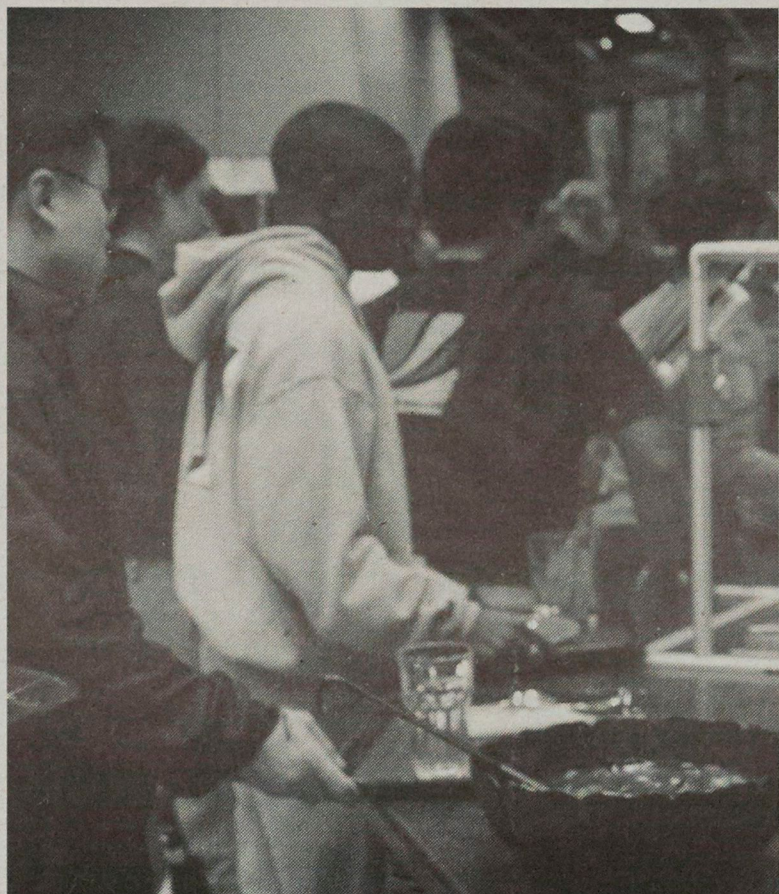
posing as soldiers. The silence was to represent "the inability of homosexual, bisexual and transgender American soldiers to speak out for their rights or talk about their lives with their friends and fellow soldiers," according to an e-mail sent out by protest organizers.

Handouts were to be distributed and a letter was to be made available for members of the College community

to sign and deliver to College President Ronald D. Liebowitz and the College Trustees.

Middlebury is by no means the first institution to confront the issue of military recruiting on campus. Just last week, a federal judge ruled in favor of those who supported an attempted ban on military recruitment at Yale Law School.

ATWATER UNVEILED



Sixiao Huo

Queueing up for dinner, early diners at the Atwater Dining Hall eagerly await generous helpings of General Tso's chicken and vegetable fried rice. The long-overdue facility was scheduled for completion last fall, and as Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette has said, "There are a few pieces of the puzzle yet to be finished." The dining hall's finished architecture is impressive, though — in addition to sporting an aesthetically pleasing interior, the building seeks to maintain the environmental integrity of the physical campus by employing daylighting, FSC-certified wood and a green roof.

Students lead way in grassroots movement

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Student Service Learning Projects

Building a statewide climate campaign

Students utilized theories, statistics and case studies encountered in and out of class to develop a strategic plan for how to build and effective grassroots coalition to support climate work in Vermont. The group focused specifically on mobilizing support for statewide legislation on climate change, sustaining long-term commitments to counteracting climate change, activating non-traditional allies and how such a venture might be financed.

Crafting political support for federal action

Working side-by-side with the Environmental Defense Fund's 1 Campaign, students strove to drum up support for the McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship Act. The students focused on convincing New Hampshire Republican Senator John Sununu — the only Northeastern Senator who has not pledged support for the Act — to vote in favor of the legislation.

Critiquing climate strategies and tactics

Students joined forces with Clean Air Cool Planet (CACP), a New England-based non-profit that mobilizes businesses, universities and communities to decrease Greenhouse gases. Students hoped to strengthen CACP's relationship with existing partnerships — including Shaw's, Timberland and Middlebury College — as well as pursue new partnerships with Staples and Dragon Products. The group created a 5-year plan for CACP's relationship with businesses and universities, providing steps for broadening the climate movement through non-traditional partnerships.

Publicizing the urgency of the climate crisis

Students took on the climate crisis denial coalition, spreading the word about the urgency of the climate crisis by discrediting those who deny the dangers of global warming. Students created an award — the Flat Earth Award — along with a Website and formal press release in order to draw attention to industry-financed spokespeople who profit from denying the climate crisis. The group worked in partnership with The Green House Network and founder Eban Goodstein.

Reaching out to young progressives and disaffected conservatives

Others focused on identifying potential partner organizations in areas of religion, labor, agriculture and farming and peace and justice. Students built a strategic framework for building beneficial relationships with each organization and helping to link these organizations with the Energy Action coalition. Their work with Energy Action strove to invigorate and expand the network of young progressives working on the climate change issue.

Advancing the web-based and educational work of climate-friendly companies

Students worked with Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream to refine their climate change campaign. These students brainstormed ideas for revamping the company's climate change action website and also designed ways to present information about climate change on the carton of a new flavor of ice cream. These students played a role in the emerging climate movement by working with a forward-looking company to craft a message to be delivered to a large consumer base.

and drumming up political support for federal action to critiquing climate tactics and publicizing the urgency of the climate crisis. Students were also responsible for helping with various logistics of the conference.

"I just want to emphasize that this was an incredible collective achievement," said Isham. "The students worked amazingly hard. They were up night and day — they deserve a lot of kudos."

The conference swung into gear on the evening of Jan. 25 when environmental economist Eban Goodstein of Lewis and Clark College presented a keynote speech on the disastrous effects of global warming.

Several notable leaders in the environmental field were in attendance for the conference. Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger, authors of last fall's highly controversial paper "The Death of Environmentalism," spoke about rethinking the politics of climate.

"The highlight of the conference was Nordhaus and Shellenberger's talk," said John Hanley '05, one of Isham's students. "They showed statistics on the changing values of Americans over the last 12 years. Essentially their talk was about how the environmental movement is not working and it needs to change its tactics."

Also in attendance was John Passacantando, the executive director of Greenpeace USA. "Public at-

"I was impressed by the — to my mind — unique way that a class turned into a conference and students turned into colleagues. I've never seen anything like that."

—Bill McKibben, scholar-in-residence in Environmental Studies

tention has moved away from the environment," said Passacantando to assembled students and activists. "It's time to develop new strategies and new skills. We need to reawaken our sense of wonder about the planet ... to become the warriors we need to become."

While speeches and presentations constituted some part of the January conference, the strongest component of the event, according to student participants and others in attendance, were the small-group sessions designed for discussion and

On Wednesday, students working on a service project to publicize the urgency of climate change announced a new award designed to expose prominent figures for denouncing global warming. The Flat Earth Award, designed by Hanley and sophomores Makely Lyon and Minna Brown, will be awarded in April on Earth Day following an online vote that will determine the winner. This year's nominees are novelist Michael Crichton, talk show host Rush Limbaugh and Fred Singer, president and founder of the Science and Environmental Policy Project.

The conference ended on Jan. 27 with an address from Bill McKibben, scholar-in-residence in environmental studies, who acknowledged to participants "we may well lose this fight." McKibben



Albert Bitici

Global climate becomes a hot topic of discussion as February temperatures soar. A recent Middlebury conference addressing climate change drew national attention at the end of January.

went on to say, "It's not your fault if we don't solve this problem, and that realization can be very useful because it frees you to try anything and everything."

As Isham was quick to point out, the conference occurred only through support from the College

for me. I'll probably remember that the most."

Another high point for Isham occurred during student presentations. "I had many many people tell me how impressed they were with our Middlebury students and the quality of their analysis," he said.

mate change," said Hanley. "I think the conference was successful in broadening people's ideas on how to advance the movement."

"It was amazing to have environmental leaders like Bill McKibben and John Passacantando there at the conference, looking to work with us college students," said Lyon. "Their being there gave us tools, knowledge and resources to work with. Global warming is a huge problem and there is not one clear solution, thus the conference and the class could have been a real downer, but I think people came out of them with a sense of hope, a few strategies to test out and feeling excited — and empowered to make a difference."

The conference made national headlines and was featured in a front-page story in the Feb. 6 *New York Times*. The events were also covered in several online magazines and Web logs. Isham, along with students and conference participants, recorded reflections on the conference at the "Blogging the Climate Movement" Web log while McKibben sent dispatches from the conference to the *Grist Magazine*, an online publication focused on environmental news and commentary.

"For me the most impressive thing was the way that Middlebury

and the College community. "Everyone in this community helped to pull this thing off. I got to know everybody on this campus. I had so many people comment to me about the level of excellence at this place."

"It was a bit of a risk for Middlebury to do this," he continued. "It was at some level a conference at activism, and a lot of people told me they wouldn't have been able to do this at their schools." The conference flourished because of the "confidence with which the entire institution approached it," accord-

"When they presented their work — that was certainly a highlight."

The unique structure and purpose of the class further added to the positive experience that both Isham and his students came away with. "There was a sort of liberated feeling in this class since we had a common goal," Isham said. "We really wanted to contribute to a social movement." Isham was especially proud that his students came away from the class with a "vision of a positive future," despite the fact that discussions on climate change often spark gloomy moods.

"Global warming is a huge problem and there is not one clear solution, thus the conference and the class could have been a real downer, but I think people came out of them with a sense of hope, a few strategies to test out and feeling excited and empowered to make a difference."

—Makely Lyon '07

ing to Isham.

For Isham, the highlight of the conference came after parting words had been issued. "Right as the conference ended I met with the students for a half hour," he said, "and we talked together about the process we'd all been through and that was extremely meaningful

Participants largely agree that the conference was a success. "The event hoped to establish a network of people working on climate change and also hoped to think of new ways to advance the climate change movement so we can achieve the reduction in emissions necessary to prevent dramatic cli-

students took over the whole process — they brainstormed, moved things along, kept the whole process going forward," said McKibben. "I was impressed by the to my mind unique way that a class turned into a conference and students turned into colleagues. I've never seen anything like that."

Dorms on new locking schedule

College tightens dorm security after Ross intrusions

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students simply delete the recurring Public Safety announcements, writing intrusions off as drunken mistakes.

"It's a Saturday night and there are going to be drunk people around on campus; you should lock your doors if you're going to sleep," said Freeman.

In defense of the lockdown, Public Safety reasserted the gravity of the intrusions. While the crime alerts now seem routine to many students, the incidents, according to Public Safety, are fairly unique to this year.

"As far as I know, these kinds of things haven't been happening before," said Lisa Boudah, director of Public Safety. The recent events have been particularly distressing to Public Safety because victims describe purposeful entries — intruders have been careful to keep doors from swinging shut behind them when entering rooms, have lurked quietly in the dark and have made quick exits after being noticed.

"[Intruders] are taking advantage of

a time when most people are going to be asleep and would be confused when they wake up and would have trouble shaping the memory," Boudah said. "There is a conscious move to be in the room at that time."

Boudah was quick to differentiate recent intrusions from the actions of intoxicated students. "I have heard of [drunken intrusions] in the past," she said, and acknowledged that such events could be a possibility.

"But in these instances," she continued, "the victim has not been able to say, 'Oh, the intruder was totally out of it,' which has been reported in the past." Information from victims does not suggest that drunkenness is a key factor in intrusions.

"Whatever is going on is definitely not right and the people know it is not right [and, go away], which is another way we can tell it's not a drunken mistake," said Boudah.

"I don't think in all the alerts we've put out we've said anything to indicate it was a drunken mistake. The actions of the people would lead [the victims] to believe they were

drunk."

In addition to stressing the severity of the intrusions, Boudah also defended the frequent e-mail alerts to the community. "Because of the crime alerts we've received more information," she said, explaining that the crime alerts are not meant to generate fear.

"We wouldn't send out the crime alert if we didn't think it was important," Boudah said.

The new locking schedule, according to Public Safety officials, is designed to foster student awareness of safety concerns and encourage students to lock their own doors. The schedule also sends a message to the community that Public Safety is taking a stronger stance on residential security.

Ross Commons first requested heightened security measures in November. On Nov. 19, Public Safety announced new protocol for the Commons complex — Ross dormitories were permanently locked and accessible only with identification access cards. Public Safety and the College admin-

istration designed the campus-wide security measures, and the events are "starting to be distressing to people," according to Boudah, making the lockdown an appropriate step.

Public Safety does not know how long the campus-wide lockdowns will remain in effect.

"The main thing is to provide students with information about locking their own doors," said Boudah, "and encourage students with information to provide public safety with information."

"Even though there is a lot of information to suggest that [the intruder] is someone within the halls, we don't know that yet and that's what's troubling for us," said Boudah.

But despite arguments from Public Safety, many students still doubt the effectiveness of the new locking schedule.

"If someone wants into the building, they're going to find a way into the building," said Sarah Jones '07. "I'm always without my access card and I always find a way to get into the building, no matter what time it is. So I don't feel like that's a viable way of dealing with the problem."

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ANDREA GISSING

Cell phones not welcome at Mississippi State University

The Mississippi State University (MSU) faculty senate is moving towards banning cellular phones from all classrooms. They are working on a policy that, if implemented, would justify removing students from classrooms for possessing a cell phone. If the ban is added, any student even seen with a phone in class will be asked to leave. The MSU faculty senate will discuss the meeting later this semester.

According to administrators, the largest concerns with cell phones are the possibility of them ringing and the ability to use them to cheat.

Many syllabi for classes at MSU include pleas to students to turn their phones on silent or completely off when in the classroom, however professors have been complaining about the prevalence of phones in the classroom. If the policy for cell phones to be banned from classrooms is university-wide, then professors would have more authority to enforce the rule.

Source: U-Wire

Colleges seek donations from undergrads

In an effort to come up with creative fundraising ideas to combat state budget cuts and to remain competitive, public universities are beginning to focus on current student as potential sources of money.

California State Polytechnic University has a students-only fund, which is designed to have undergraduates donate money for scholarships. Other schools, such as the University of Georgia, solicit seniors to donate between \$35-50 for campus improvement.

Now, however, younger students are being approached for donations. The University of Alabama has started a campaign asking every one of the 21,000 students to donate \$2 that would go towards a scholarship for someone who will be the first in his family to go to college.

Fundraising consultants say this is where the trends are heading. Previously, students would not be approached until at least five years after graduation. Then the trend moved until the norm was that students would be approached as soon as they graduated. Now it has moved even younger.

Source: The Associated Press

Costumes incite investigation at Virginia Military Institute

Virginia Military Institute has requested its student governing body to investigate and recommend discipline against cadets who wore controversial costumes to a Halloween party. The costumes parodied Nazis, Africans and homosexuals.

The costumes became known when photographs of the party were posted on Web sites, first on one featuring amateur photographs, but then on an independent media Web site. School officials said they were "disappointed" in the behavior of the eight cadets pictured and the judgment they showed. However, they say that the behavior was not mean-spirited but more of a bad attempt at humor.

It is unclear if any rules were broken, however the school had let the Halloween party take place in the barracks under the condition that costumes be appropriate. Cadets can be disciplined for "conduct unbecoming," behavior that brings disrespect to the Institute.

Source: The Washington Post

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public safety log

FEBRUARY 2, 2005 TO FEBRUARY 5, 2005

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/2/05	5:15 p.m.	Collision	Hit and Run	I Lot	No Suspects
2/2/05	1:20 a.m.	Vandalism	Light Fixtures	Starr	No Suspects
2/3/05	Unknown	Theft	Bicycle	Bicentennial Way	No Suspects
2/3/05	11:00 a.m.	Collision	Hit and Run	Old Chapel	MPD
2/3/05	2:24 a.m.	Vandalism	Closet	Fletcher	No Suspects
2/4/05	1:30-4:00 a.m.	Theft	iPod	Off Campus Location	No Suspects
2/4/05	2:07 a.m.	Disorderly Conduct	N/A	The Mill	MPD
2/4/05	1:34 a.m.	Vandalism	Drywall	Voter	No Suspects
2/5/05	12:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Light Fixtures	The Mill	MPD

localnews

6
FATAL LEAK
ONE DEAD AND SIX
INJURED IN A UVM
RESIDENCE

7
ALL ABOARD
SNOW BOWL
SHUTTLE SEES
SUCCESS

CO poisoning leaves one dead at UVM

By Polly Johnson
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

A Jan. 30 carbon monoxide leak in an apartment complex housing a number of University of Vermont (UVM) students has left one dead and six others injured. The Redstone Apartments at 500 S. Prospect St., in close proximity to the university, houses 200 residents, most of whom are UVM students. Building number three at the 11-building complex was the source of the leak, which erupted the night before the incident actually occurred. Carbon monoxide began to back up in the building after the gas-fired, hot-water boiler backfired and blew out a section of the ventilation pipe.

The causes of the boiler malfunction are still unknown and are currently under investigation. The apartment complex did not have any carbon monoxide detectors. Vermont law does not require them.

Jeffrey Rodliff, 23, of St. Johnsbury, died as a result of the leak. He was not a student, but was visiting the apartment building. Six others were affected and once medical assistance arrived at the scene, all were rushed to the Fletcher Allen Hospital in Burlington. All had to be transferred to other hospitals in Boston, Montreal and Syracuse because the facilities in Burlington did not offer the specialized oxygen treatment that was needed.

John Novarr, managing partner of Prospect Venture LLC, the company that owns the apartment complex, remarked to the *Burlington Free Press* in a phone interview that he "doesn't understand why it happened or what the cause of it was, but the only thing in the building that makes carbon monoxide is the boiler." He traveled to Burlington immediately following the incident to investigate.

UVM President Dan Fogel, in a statement released following the tragedy, said, "We will communicate with the property owner today and make clear our expectation that our students should not return to their apartments until every mechanical system in every building has been thoroughly and professionally inspected, and carbon monoxide detectors have been installed throughout the Redstone Apartment buildings."

Since the incident, it has been revealed that the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission confirmed that the P lexvent plastic vent piping installed in the Redstone Apartments was included in its 1998 recall of around 250,000 pipe systems that were prone to cracking or separating causing carbon monoxide leakage. The pipe that broke in the building was found to have separated from an elbow joint. Novarr says that he was never notified of any such recall.

Since the incident, UVM has stepped up housing safety and its efforts to ensure that all residences are inspected and safe. This week, carbon monoxide detectors were installed in all student residences on campus and all the furnaces in the Redstone Apartments were replaced. In a campus wide e-mail, Fogel wrote that he intends to "ensure the UVM family that the safety of our students is our highest priority."

A bad pipe causes a fatal leak in apartment



Courtesy

The Redstone Apartments had to be evacuated by the tenants while carbon monoxide detectors were installed.

On Monday, Feb. 7, the Burlington City Council, after much prompting from Governor Jim Douglas '72 and Mayor Peter Clavelle, voted on whether or not to make it mandatory for carbon monoxide detectors to be installed in all Burlington residences.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, highly poisonous gas that is produced by the incomplete combustion of some fuels. It can have extremely harmful or fatal effects, even at low exposures. It can cause headaches, nausea and fatigue, unconsciousness, coma and death. Each year, carbon monoxide poisoning accounts for 200 deaths nationwide. Thousands more are sent to the hospital annually from poisoning. There are many ways to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, including installing a carbon monoxide detector, which is cheap and reliable. The detectors are similar to smoke detectors and sound an alarm when carbon monoxide is detected in the air. A certified technician should also regularly check appliances.

UVM students who live at the

"I want to assure the UVM family that the safety of our students is our highest priority — our students should not return to their apartments until every mechanical system in every building has been thoroughly and professionally inspected."

— UVM President Dan Fogel, in an e-mail statement to all UVM students and parents

Redstone Apartments were able to begin moving back in on Friday evening — they had been staying at the Sheraton Hotel since the incident. Novarr confirmed that all heating systems had been replaced and the Burlington Fire Department confirmed that the apartments are safe.

UVM officials, with the assistance of the Burlington Fire Department, responded quickly and efficiently to the incident. Precautions are being taken to prevent a repeat of this incident. As Novarr noted in the wake of the tragic event, "There's no price on the life of a student."



Denise Leung

Following the incident at UVM, Middlebury College stepped up its effort to protect the students by installing carbon monoxide detectors in all the residence halls on campus.

High demand for Snow Bowl shuttle

By Elizabeth Siegel
STAFF WRITER

For students at a school that has its own ski facility, the massive popularity of a shuttle service to the slopes should come as no surprise. Established in October 2004, the shuttle, which runs from Middlebury College to the Snow Bowl has already gained so much support from the Middlebury campus that plans to scale down operation from seven days per week to four days per week have been abandoned.

In a press release issued by shuttle service provider Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) on Feb. 1, it was announced that the decision to expand February service resulted from January ridership, which is said to have "leap-frogged past all [ACTR] expectations."

"We've seen more people using the service than we expected," explained ACTR Executive Director Jim Moulton. "We also got a lot of phone calls and emails saying 'we want seven days per week service' in February."

"I know I've been grateful for the shuttle," says Middlebury senior Rev Avasarala. "I don't normally make it to the Snow Bowl in February," she adds, "but now that there is going to be a daily shuttle, maybe this year will be different."

Due to such interest, the January protocol of daily service will continue until Feb. 27. As usual, the shuttle is free of cost and can be

caught at Adirondack Circle. Hours of operation, including pick-up times, are posted at Adirondack Circle and at various locations throughout campus. Schedules can also be obtained online at ACTR's Web site, www.actr-vt.org.

The shuttle will not end when ski season does, although March service is expected to downsize to four days a week. From Thursday through Sunday, however, "anyone who wants to go hiking, biking, visit (Middlebury's) Breadloaf, or

anything like that" can hop on a shuttle bus and head down Route 125 where several hiking trails begin, explained Moulton.

"I've never been a fan of cold

weather," laughed Middlebury senior Emily Berlanstein, "but with the Spring shuttle service, I can take advantage of all that Vermont has to offer."

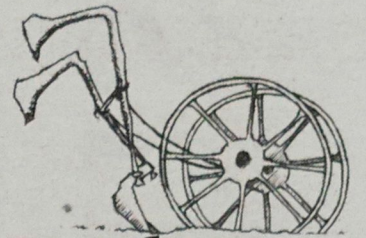
"We've seen more people using the service than we expected."

—Jim Moulton, executive director of ACTR



Albert Bitici

After positive feedback from the students and community, ACTR has decided to keep up its daily schedule.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Vermont is bursting with "alfalfa sprouts." You can see them in the produce section of Hannaford. But more likely, they will be calmly waiting in line behind you at the Co-op. A salad bar item out shopping? Not quite. Weary of life in the big city, sick of the skyscrapers and billboards, many an entrepreneur has resettled to the quiet life in rural Vermont. These "alfalfa sprouts" are part hippy flatlander, part eager business-person with an added dash of cultured outdoorsman. Ready to tackle the earth, these men and women add both character and complexity to Vermont rural life, and bring along some tasty treats.

From a little scoop shop opened in Burlington in 1978 to chain stores throughout the United States and in 18 countries, Ben and Jerry's is perhaps the prime example of the successful sprout. The native Long Islanders took the rolling landscape as an opportunity to put their ideals into action and "inspire people with ice cream," promoting environmental and social initiatives with each mouth-watering pint. In a town just southeast of the capital — Montpelier — another alfalfa seedling is, well, sprouting.

One city folk who has immigrated to the Green Mountains is Tod Murphy, owner and operator of the Farmers Diner in Barre, Vermont. With a sleek brown ponytail leading down his back and sporting a pair of dusty jeans, Murphy spoke at an Environmental Studies department lecture last spring. When not digressing to stories about his animals — a characteristic of any farmer you meet — he outlined his thriving food business. His mission? Serve food made of almost entirely local products. Vegetables, dairy, meats, fruits, you name it. About 70 percent of the Diner's fare comes from small-time farmers from the Barre area. Additionally, Murphy is also working to create "scale-appropriate infrastructure" to process the food. The concept paddles against the current of our current global food systems. In Murphy's ideal, foods are processed locally; instead of shipping long distances to convert milk to cheese and then shipping it back home again, the fare is prepared within 50 miles of the farm from where it came. Pushing the middleman aside helps farmers earn decent money for their work while also decreasing the costs of pollution and environmental degradation by lessening shipping and travel needs. At a time when gasoline prices teeter on the brink of insanity, Murphy seems to have gotten it right.

New York and Boston may have the competitive corporations and Starbuck's on every corner. However, Vermont has the peace and serenity to house the Ben and Jerry's and Tod Murphy's of America. It is a haven for the weary-eyed dreamers and spirited believers. No matter the season, the soil is always fertile and ready for the next "alfalfa sprout" to emerge, ready to change the world.

BARRE FARM SHOW



Courtesy

Lee Terrier proudly displays the award he won on Thursday, Jan. 27 at the Barre Farm Show Dairy Awards Ceremony. Terrier, along with his wife Lisa, the technology distribution coordinator in the Library and Information Services department, operates the L & LT Farm in Middlebury. At the show, their farm received "Vermont's Highest Milk Quality Award — Best Somatic Cell Count 2004." The farm, which "milks 34 cows in a comfort stall barn with mattresses," said Terrier, has for a long time been a successful farm, and has "been one of the Dairy of Distinction winners for the last four years." The couple, along with their five-year-old son, Wade, love working on their farm.

VERMONT



by the numbers

444,077: Number of registered voters in Vermont.

70.8: Percentage of registered Vt. voters who voted in the past November election.

223: Number of mountains in Vermont that are higher than 2,000 feet.

75: Percentage of Vermont that is covered in forests.

1: Vermont's rank in outlawing slavery among all the states.

Sources: burlingtonfreepress.com, 1-800-vermont.com, butlerwebs.com

Opinions

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Editorial

Expand the lockdown... to your own room

Is anyone else tired of receiving Public Safety alerts announcing yet another intrusion? There is a solution — a way for the trespassing to end. It is not a very complicated solution either: it does not involve increased patrols, restricted access to buildings, curfews or even video cameras in every hallway. It does, however, require a sort of community effort, but — do not worry — not one that requires people to organize protests, put up signs or even attend a large meeting.

All that has to be done is for people to LOCK THEIR ROOMS AT NIGHT.

People may laugh off the intrusion alerts as just an inflation of a typical drunken mistake. The distressing thing about these intrusions, however, is that they keep happening. And according to the Department of Public Safety, what the victims are reporting is not “typical drunken behavior.” One would hope that if Public Safety is going to the effort to put out these alerts, there is a reason for them. At the bottom of every e-mail that has come into students’ in-boxes there have been steps, precautions that students can take to protect themselves, including LOCKING ROOM DOORS.

Yet the intrusions continue. People are still being waken up in the dead of the night by a stranger.

Public Safety has drastic measures, reminiscent of the lockdown of the fall of 2001, the lockdown that prompted the access card system. If those responsible for the intrusions are students with a proximate access card, then yes, the oft-voiced objection that the “lockdown won’t stop the intrusions” would be valid. What the lock-down does do is remind everyone who has to take out their card after 9 p.m. that something is not right on the safe College campus. The locked doors in and of itself are a warning, a physical one that cannot be immediately deleted and ignored. The locked external door functions best as a reminder to students to lock their dorm room doors.

Warnings are ignored because for the majority of the Middlebury College community, this is something that is happening to “someone else.” Rumors abound, with each new story or piece of “accurate” information more sensational than the last. But if people actually believed some of these rumors, there would be security alarms on every room door. When taking each successive alert less seriously, the College community simultaneously ignores the alarming reality — more intrusions have been reported this year than in previous years.

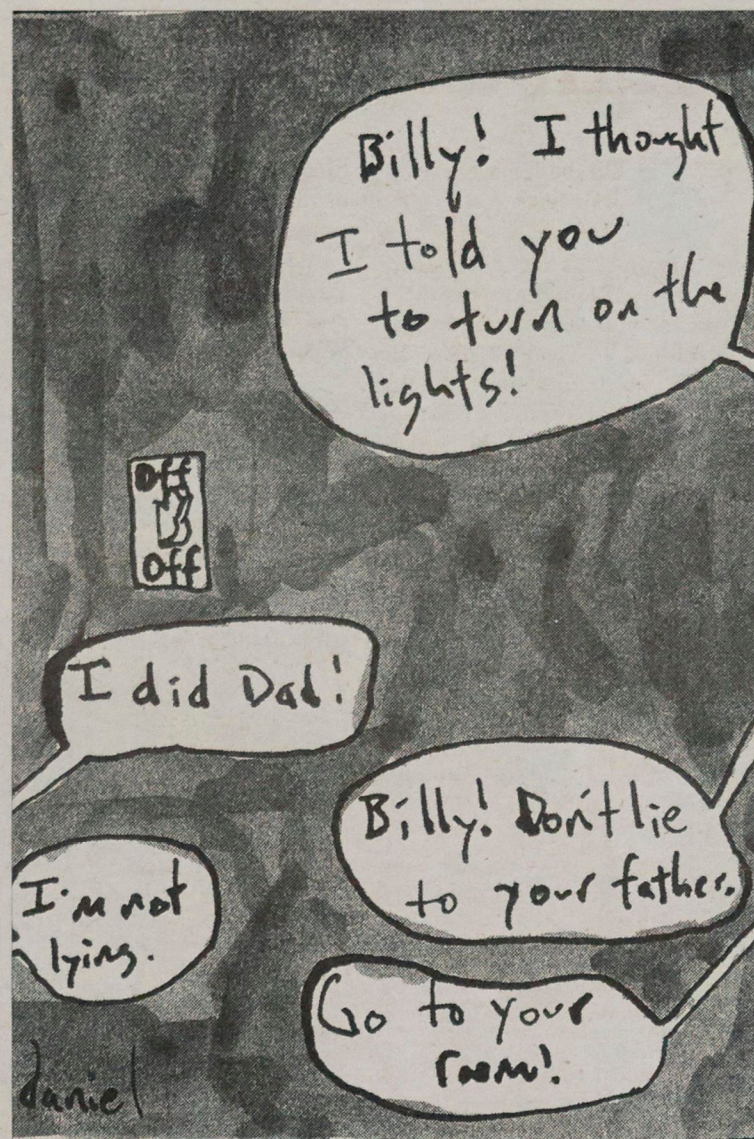
How many of these notices would have been rendered meaningless if the door — the barrier between the sleeper and the hallway — had been secured? Just imagine the possible scenarios. Nights could either be spent jumping at sounds coming from the hallway — revelers returning home after weekend activities — or sleeping restfully knowing that neither intruder nor misdirected inebriated neighbors could disturb you. All it takes is a willingness to lock the door as you turn in for the night.

Lock your door. You will do it once you leave Middlebury, and apparently now the College is no safer than the outside world.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

On behalf of the students enrolled in the J-term course, Building the Climate Movement, I'd like to thank many members of our campus community who contributed to the success of the recent conference “What Works? Building Strategies for the New Climate Movement.” So many colleagues in catering, facilities management, scheduling, Information and Technology Services and many other campus offices, took the lead to assure that this complicated event came off so successfully. I can personally attest that the visiting conference participants — many from similar institutions — were extremely impressed by the level of excellence displayed by so many people on the campus.

We also thank the leaders on this campus and from elsewhere who so generously funded the conference, from the BPB Foundation, The Christian A. Johnson Foundation, The Mellon Foundation, The Schumann Foundation, Seventh Generation, the Vermont Campus Compact and the following contributors from Middlebury College: The Ada Howe Kent Fund; The Alliance for Civic Engagement; The Charles P. Scott Spiritual and Religious Life Center; The Office of Environmental Affairs; The Program in Environmental Studies; The Pooled Enrichment Fund; and The Rohatyn Center for International Affairs. And American Flatbread and Clif Bar generously supplied delicious food!

Sincerely,
Jon Isham
Assistant Professor of
Economics

To the Editor:

This week a representative from the United States Marine Corps came to Middlebury College for recruitment purposes.

The Marines, as with all branches of the United States Military, directly discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation via their “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. This standard is in violation of Middlebury’s employer recruitment non-discrimination policy, which prohibits employers visiting Middlebury to select against applicants “on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, place of birth, service in the armed forces of the United States or against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability.” The Marines were able to bypass this restriction due to a loophole that allows for a recruiter who is unable to meet Middlebury’s requirement to hold a widely publicized meeting at which they justify and defend their reasons for discrimination.

We strongly object to this aspect of the policy as it weakens Middlebury’s commitment to non-discrimination. As it stands, it would be hypothetically possible for any employer with a policy of discrimination to recruit on campus after the minor deterrence of holding a meeting. The current standard that is failing to protect GLBTQ students would potentially be just as ineffective at protecting African-American, Jewish or international students.

Middlebury certainly is on the right track with its current policy regarding recruitment. It is now time for the College to strengthen this policy by eliminating the opt-out clause for employers with discriminatory policies, and in doing so maintain Middlebury’s voice as a leader in progressive social policy.

Sincerely,
Katie Harrold '06
Craig Johnson '05
Members of moqa

'Don't ask don't tell' speaker reflects poorly on the College

On Feb. 4, I received an e-mail through one of the many distribution lists to which I belong. The message said that the military was coming to campus to recruit students. At first, I merely thought to myself, "That's dumb. I'm sure there are plenty of I-bankers-to-be that want to join the marines before taking on Wall Street." But then the e-mails started to fly, each popped with the word "discrimination."

Curious to know what discrimination means at Middlebury, I went for my highly annotated, ludicrously highlighted and well-worn copy of the College Handbook. In it, I found what I had expected: Middlebury College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, place of birth, service in the armed forces of the United States, or against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability.

With a piqued curiosity and perverted love for primary sources, I started to poke around the internet. After a good 20 minutes of searching, I found it — U.S. Code Title 10,654: Policy Concerning Homosexuality in the Armed Forces, more commonly known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Three and half pages of watertight legal mumbo-jumbo later, I had come to a decision. I was not going to sit by

and let this blow over. When I arrived at Middlebury in the fall of 2002, I told myself that if I was going to preserve any semblance of sanity, I would have to pick and choose my battles. "Today," I thought, as hyperbolic visions of defiantly standing in the way of an M1 Abrams tank floated through my head, "is my day to fight."

Lucky for me, in the innumerable hours I spent bonding with Google and the Handbook, someone else had already planned a meeting. Sunday, 6:30 p.m., Chellis House.

I arrived, my characteristic 10minutes early, to find Katie Harold '06.5, one of the co-presidents of

is discriminatory. After the meeting, whether they say that they refuse to hire Jews, women or even Alaskans, they are permitted to hold recruiting events.

Resolute in our decision to fight, Katie and I began to craft a plan of action. Our greatest weapon was exactly what we came to Middlebury to acquire — knowledge. We would arm the College community with the history of the policy, the monetary and human costs incurred since its inception and, most importantly, with questions. Hard ones.

Why can homosexual soldiers in Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Czech

We have become so caught up in our politically correct acceptance that we have forgotten what we ourselves believe

MOQA, searching for a light switch. As I helped her look, we discussed how the recruiter was being allowed to come to campus.

Middlebury requires all employers who want to recruit on campus and use our facilities to sign an agreement that states that their non-discrimination policies are parallel to our own. If they are unable to do so, they may hold an open meeting to the College community to explain what their recruitment policy is and how exactly it

Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Sweden — coalition partners in *Operation: Enduring Freedom* — successfully work with heterosexual soldiers, but American soldiers cannot? Why too can American soldiers work with homosexuals from other nations, but not with American homosexuals?

Why were at least seven Arabic translators discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in 2002 while the U.S.

Departments of Defense and State actively searched out individuals with even meager linguistic abilities to fill hundreds, if not thousands of vacant specialist positions?

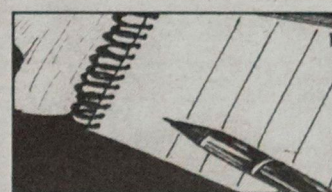
Why is the Department of Defense spending \$20-40 million a year to discharge soldiers while claiming that we need Americans to step up and join the armed forces?

And most relevantly: What does it mean if Middlebury allows employers who are known discriminators to recruit on its campus?

This last question is the one more important to me. What does it mean? To me, it means that our policy of non-discrimination is nothing but farce. It means that we, as an institution, believe that discrimination is permissible so long as it is not secret. It means that we have become so caught up in our politically correct acceptance of foreign ideas that we have forgotten what we ourselves believe.

I refuse to stand in an Ivory Tower. And I refuse to be silenced like the thousands of American homosexuals serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Middlebury College should not allow organizations who cannot abide by its policy of non-discrimination onto its campus to recruit its students. Period.

J.S. WOODWARD '06
AN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
AND BIOLOGY MAJOR
FROM ANCHORAGE, AK



NOTES FROM THE DESK

A few days ago, I finished my finals at the Universidad Carlos III, left Madrid after a five month stay, arrived in Burlington late Friday night and was sitting in class at Middlebury 10 a.m. Monday morning.

I was skeptical about the phenomenon known as "reverse culture shock." While many of my friends elected more exotic locals such as India or Africa that required dramatic lifestyle changes, I lived in a western European capital where Starbucks was always a mere 10-minute walk away.

Back on campus, I noted that aside from the new buildings very little had actually changed, although perhaps my perspectives had.

Proctor has been rearranged and it took me 20 minutes to find the cereal. There are plenty of new faces and I feel much older among the throngs of first-years and new Febs. In addition to the usual threatening reminders from Dining Services to bring back dishes, my inbox is now flooded with notices from public safety warning me of dangerous late-night intruders or drunken classmates. Of the multitude of construction projects that were anxiously awaited last spring, the new library and Atwater Dining Hall have at last opened their doors.

After living abroad, where gaining independence and spending time alone are actually a large part of the experience, it is a bit overwhelming to plunge back into the bubble, perpetually surrounded by people you know, are supposed to know or at least recognize.

The size of the Middlebury campus also seems to have shrunk. After enduring an hour commute to class in Madrid, the extra five-minute walk to Ross that I used to whine about seems superfluous.

Basically, coming back to Midd has been somewhat of an amplified version of returning to my hometown after my first semester of College — an experience I often describe with a favorite quote by Nelson Mandela. "There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find ways in which you yourself have altered."

— Caroline Stauffer
NEWS EDITOR



Sam Says A Political Commentary By Sam Wilson

Since the State of the Union Address, President Bush has been traveling around the country to convince ordinary people and Congress that his plan for creating personal accounts in Social Security is the correct way to save the program.

After all, the Social Security Trust Fund will become bankrupt around 2042 if we do absolutely nothing between now and then. And, instead of a slight tax increase, mild benefit cut or combination

of the two, the President reasons that personal accounts will fix the problem. The logic goes like this: today's workers, whose Social Security taxes pay for today's retirees, would be able to divert part of their Social Security tax into personal investment accounts. Those accounts would then generate so much more money than Social Security that benefits could be cut without anyone suffering from it. Sounds pretty nice, right?

Unfortunately, a few problems exist with this logic. The first is that it just does not work. Today's workers pay for today's retirees. That means that as soon as the workers start diverting their taxes away from Social Security and into personal accounts, the retirees have less money from which they would draw their benefits. This would mean that the Trust Fund would go

bankrupt way before 2042, thus defeating the whole purpose of personal accounts in the first place.

But to counter this, the White House has been talking about the "transition costs." The transition cost is the amount of money Social Security will have to get from somewhere else to pay for the benefits of today's retirees. This would not be cheap. By the administration this would cost \$758 million for only the first five years of the transition. In the long run, it will cost trillions. And all this money will, of course, simply come out of the deficit.

So, ignoring whether or not these personal accounts will actually yield a return greater than the Trust Fund, which is extremely uncertain itself, this plan cannot fix the solvency of the Trust Fund. It's simply a switcheroo. The Social Security taxes that would pay for ben-

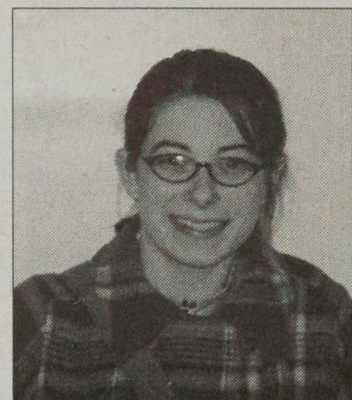
efits go to these personal accounts. The benefits are then paid for out of the deficit. It's a redirecting of tax money, nothing more.

The second problem with this logic is that for personal accounts to be desirable, they would have to produce a greater return than the Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is made up of U.S. Treasury Bonds, the safest investments in the world. While they do not offer instant wealth, they do offer a guaranteed return.

Other investments offer the possibility of a greater return, but without the security. The entire appeal of personal accounts rests on the assumption that these personal accounts will have a higher return than the Trust Fund, and will not crash. Risking the last line of retirement security on such an assumption is asinine.

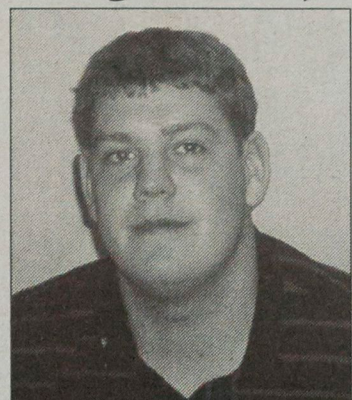
Social Security under review

The Middlebury Campus online poll



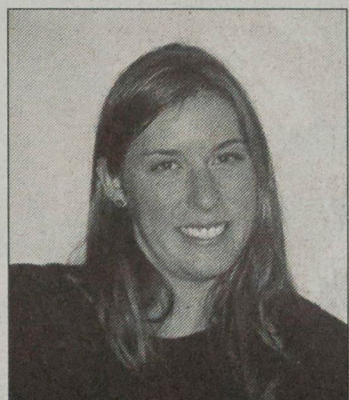
"YEAH, I DO, BECAUSE THEN THEY DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THE DORM ROOMS IN BATTELL."

—KRISTIN SMITH '07
JACKSON, MO



"NO."

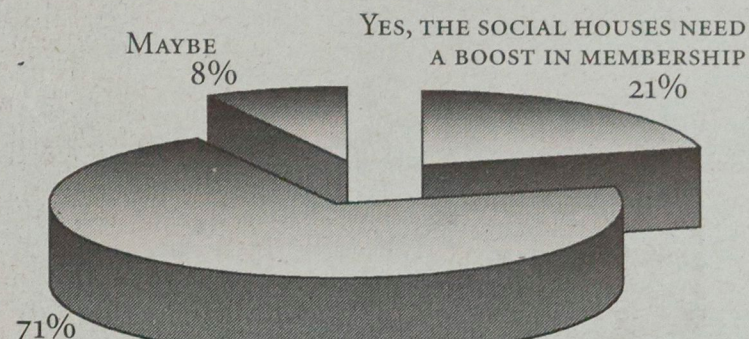
—SEAN MEANY '08
NORWALK, CT.



"DEFINITELY, THEY KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR THEM, THEY KNOW WHERE TO FIND THEIR PLACE AT MIDD."

—KATIE DEVINE '06.5
CLIFTON, VA

DO YOU THINK IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO LET FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS RUSH SOCIAL HOUSES IN THEIR SECOND SEMESTER?



No, students need some time to adjust to Midd before looking into the social houses

Results based on 75 responses collected between January 24 and February 8 at www.middleburycampus.com.

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: FOLLOWING REPEAT INCIDENTS OF DORM ROOM INTRUSION, HAVE YOU NOW BEGUN TO LOCK YOUR DOOR AT NIGHT?

The Middlebury Campus

WILL HOLD ELECTIONS FOR THE
POSITIONS OF EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND
MANAGING EDITOR ON
SUNDAY, FEB. 13.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO EXPRESS
INTEREST, E-MAIL CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU

WANTED:

arts editor

local news editor

illustrator

staff writers

photographers

to apply or for more information,
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febcelebration

Feb class of 2004.5 hits the slopes



Sixiao Huo

Members of the Feb class of 2004.5 leave Mead Chapel and head for the slopes after a morning ceremony lauding the new graduates.

Graduating Febs appreciate intimate mid-year celebration

By Taylor Johnston
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 29, the graduating Feb class skied into alumni-hood under sunny skies, as part of the weekend-long event popularly known as Feb celebration.

This year's February Celebration Weekend included the usual college event fare tempered with student-planned activities. The fun started on Wednesday with a party at Two Brothers Tavern, picked up again Thursday night with the President's reception and student slide show and was still going strong on Friday with the guest speaker and student party at the Grille. Saturday saw the usual

Mead Chapel ceremony, ski-down and final reception.

Amy McQuade '04.5 described one of the highlights of her experience, Saturday's ceremony in Mead Chapel.

"After President Ronald D. Liebowitz hands every student a cane, they return to their seats to praise the others walking across the stage," she said.

"As soon as one student received the cane, we all turned into Freshmen again, as the only sound you could hear was of 100 Febs banging their Painter cane on the floor of Mead Chapel in pure elation. We were all laughing so hard."

McQuade remembers her experience watching her brother's May commencement in 2002.

"The ceremony in Mead Chapel is much more relaxed than graduation in the Spring. The environment is more friendly and cheery," she said "[I found May commencement] to be much more impersonal — the fact that I could look around in Mead Chapel and see a close friend in every direction made the ceremony even

more special."

Tim Marks '03.5, Alumni and Parent Program intern, expressed

"It's not a big graduation, it doesn't have all the bells and whistles of May commencement, but it's much more personal. I like it more than commencement. I got to ski down the hill in my cap and gown [last year] — who can say that?"

—Tim Marks '03.5

a similar sentiment about the celebration. He worked on the '03.5 Feb Celebration Committee and

also helped plan this year's events as a staff member of the Alumni and Parent Program.

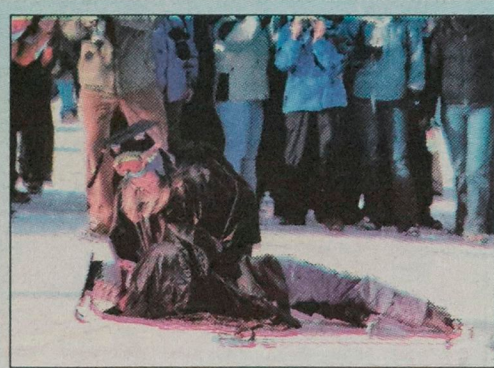
"It's not a big graduation," Marks said. "It doesn't have all the bells and whistles of May commencement, but it's much more personal. I like it more than commencement. I got to ski down the hill in my cap and gown [last year] — who can say that? I wouldn't change anything about it."

Marks said he feels the Feb celebration speakers, while less prestigious than May commencement's, add to the intimacy of the experience.

"I think that what the Febs get on Friday in the [Center for the Arts] is better than anything anyone else could give them. Typically, Febs invite someone [to talk] that can speak to the Feb experience."

This year's Friday night guest speaker was James Okomboli '00.5, followed the next day by two members of the class, Steffany Hodge and Max Lavine, who spoke at the Mead Chapel ceremony.

Heather Cahill, associate director of the Alumni and Parent





RIGHT: Graduating Feb students Charlie Zabriski and Philippe Danielides follow a College standard-bearer up the Snow Bowl via chair-lift. ABOVE: Febs ski down the slopes in caps and gowns in a procession including faculty in full regalia. Graduating Feb students may return in May for the official commencement ceremony on campus.

Program, spoke to a worry of some members of the Feb class.

"Many students come into Feb celebration with the concern that it will be less official than May

"The ceremony in Mead Chapel is much more relaxed than graduation in the Spring. The environment is more friendly and cheery."

—Amy McQuade '04.5

graduation," she said. "But afterwards many think it's more special. It allows for a more personal experience and students are a lot more involved in the process."

McQuade had only one objection to the event. "Febs do not receive a diploma at the celebration, and the weekend does not even hold the title of a 'gradua-

tion," she said.

Abbie Beane '04.5 enjoyed the celebration, but had similar concerns. "I still have a problem with the fact that they don't read honors and they call it a celebration and not a graduation."

Marks said he thinks keeping the weekend as a celebration allows more people to participate. The unofficial feel of the experience does not bother him.

"I think this year was a little more official than last year — they read off majors — but I think the College spends most of its energy trying to make it intimate and personal. As an alum and a Feb, I think that's exactly the way it should be done."

Most Febs share Marks's opinion, according to Cahill. "I've been doing [celebrations] for six years," she said. "I've had very few people who walked away saying it wasn't all that [they] wanted it to be."

This year seems to be no exception. "I think for [our class] it was better than expected," said Leslie Wade '04.5. "That was a nice surprise."



LEFT: Dana Allen and Spencer Taylor congratulate one another outside Mead Chapel. ACROSS: Graduating Febs skiing down the College Snow Bowl, dressed in caps and gowns, to meet friends, family, faculty and staff. The ski-down procession became an annual feb tradition several decades ago.



features

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UP-CLOSE AND
PERSONAL WITH
CHRIS THOMPSON

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GONE CRAZY
VALENTINE'S DAY
TEDDY BEAR CAUSES
CONTROVERSY

The man behind the security badge

Get to know friendly campus officer Chris Thompson

Chris Thompson is my favorite Public Safety officer. I'm not exactly sure why. It could be because sometimes when he comes into parties, he does crazy dance moves and I like that. Or, it could be because when I was a first-year, all confused and lost in my first week at the big College, he let me in to good ol' Battell when I had forgotten my access card. Now, most likely, Chris does not remember any of these incidents. But he is uber-cool, and so I thought maybe other Midd-kids of the same opinion would be interested in getting a peek into his mysterious life.

The Middlebury Campus: So, how long have you been the coolest Public Safety officer at the College?

Chris Thompson: I have been employed at the College for approximately two years. I started as a Public Safety Officer and instantly loved the job. My co-workers are amazing and the students make you feel as though you are a part of their extended family. It's been a wonderful experience that I wouldn't trade for anything.

The Campus: What did you do before you started working here at Midd?

Thompson: Before being employed by Middlebury College, I actually worked at Standard Register for 10 years, which is a big printing company in Middlebury. The job was okay but my true love was my DJ business. I owned a company by the name of Madmixx Entertainment with my brother-in-law. We DJed weddings, class reunions, parties and, of course, we played at local clubs in Vergennes or Burlington. We would usually play every Friday and Saturday night. It was so much fun to keep the dance floors packed and to have the opportunity to meet so many great people! When I started at the College, my Friday and Saturday nights became instantly booked (with patrolling the campus). But I really enjoy getting to know people. I've always liked to help people and this job gives me the

chance to do that.

The Campus: Do you have a family? Kids? Kittens?

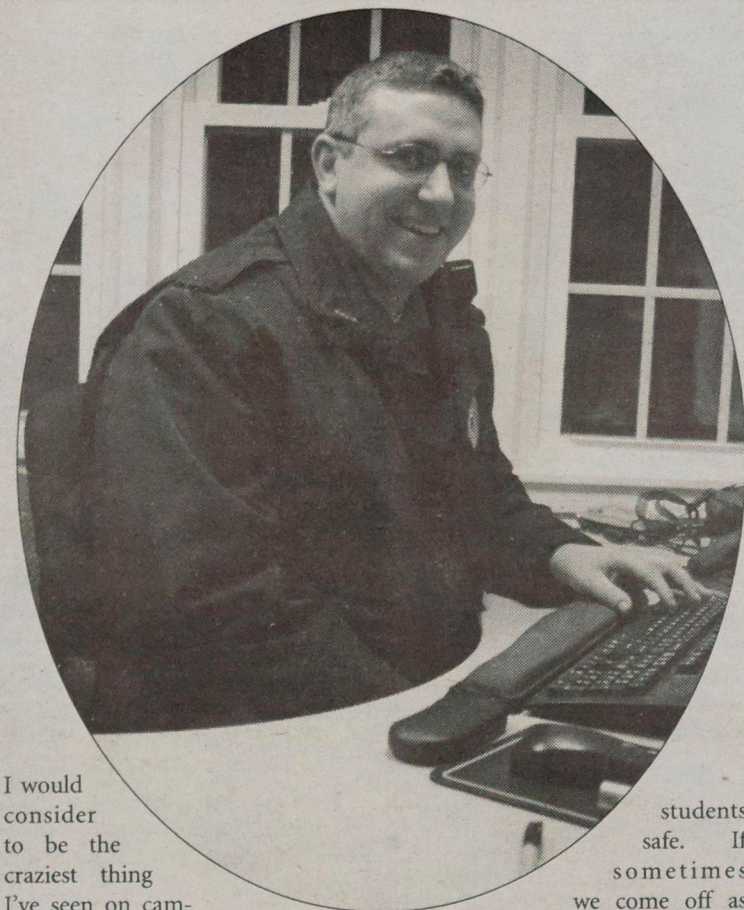
Thompson: I've been happily married for 13 years. My lovely wife Kristi and I have one of those fairytale relationships. We met in junior high school and have been together ever since. She was the captain of the cheerleading squad and I was captain of the basketball team. She has always been my hero and I love her more than words can say. I have a 9-year-old daughter Chelsea, who is gifted and who just amazes me. I also have a 5-year-old son Ryan. He is a little duplicate of me. It's so funny to watch him do the same things that I did when I was a child. He is going to be athletically gifted. He's very tall and strong for his age. They both fill my heart with love! My wife and I are also expecting our third child in May of 2005. We do know that it is going to be a boy, and are very excited! I'm really blessed with a wonderful family.

The Campus: In your off time, what do you do? Hobbies, interests? Big into Harleys or anything creepy like that, that you try to keep hidden?

Thompson: During my time off, I like to mess around with my DJ equipment. I like to listen to all types of music, but I like hip hop the most. I suppose that's because my brother Kyle (a.k.a. Fattie B) is an MC in Burlington and has had great success. He has played with several different groups, which have toured Europe and the United States. He has opened for artists such as KRS-One, Beastie Boys and Tribe Called Quest. I also like to play video games, watch sporting events and go hunting or fishing on my days off.

The Campus: What is the craziest thing you've seen during your time as the coolest Public Safety Officer at the College?

Thompson: I'm not sure as to what



I would consider to be the craziest thing I've seen on campus. I think that some of the things the students do I would consider to be "crazy." But then I think, these are just young people trying to have fun. As long as they are not endangering themselves or anyone else, Public Safety doesn't really have an issue with the students' behavior. Some of the things they do appear to be quite fun. Then I get jealous that I didn't think of it first.

The Campus: What do you think — could you go back and be in college again? Would you want to?

Thompson: I would love to be in college. The students' camaraderie is great and I would like to be a part of that. The classes are never appealing, but it's definitely the greatest time of a young person's life.

The Campus: What do you find funny or ironic about the college students today with whom you are constantly interacting?

Thompson: I think the thing about college students that I find ironic is the level of understanding that exists. I've written up a student for breaking College policy before. Then the next evening, that same individual will come up to you and ask about your plans for the weekend. They realize that we at Public Safety have a job to do and are here to keep the

students safe. If sometimes we come off as a little rough, it's only

because we are genuinely concerned about the students' welfare. It's scary if you find a student who is ill or unconscious. That students' welfare is in the hands of the Public Safety officer and any medical personnel that may respond. Sometimes it's a stressful job, but overall. It's all worth it.

The Campus: If you weren't the coolest Public Safety officer, what other job do you think you might have liked?

Thompson: If I weren't a Public Safety officer, I think that I would have pursued the DJ business a little further. I actually always wanted to try to be a DJ at a radio station, but I was turned off by the lack of income. Being a Public Safety officer is definitely the best job for the type of person I am.

The Campus: What is your favorite book?

Thompson: This would have to be "Where Did I Come From" by Peter Mayle. This was a book that my parents had me read when I was reaching adolescence. It explains "the birds and the bees" and I have never been able to get the images out of my head. In all seriousness...probably the "Harry Potter" books.

The Campus: If you could create your own Middlebury Security SWAT Force with any cops from TV, movies or superheroes who would the squad consist of?

Thompson: If I could choose my very own SWAT squad, it would consist of Frank Drebin from the "Naked Gun" movies. This guy would make even me look intelligent. Then I would choose Magnum P.I., so that our cruisers could actually be Lamborghinis. But really, I couldn't ask for a better group than those that I work with. I feel like they don't get enough recognition and don't get the appreciation that they always deserve. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the people I work with; from the director, assistant directors, the sergeant, my fellow officers to our telecommunicators. Every person involved does their part to make the job easier. I wouldn't be able to do my job if it weren't for everyone in my department.



Edward Francis

Devoted to the safety of our student body, our fabulous officer Chris Thomson is also in tune with "DJ-ism!"

— Interview by Lisie Mehlman



BY MATT KUNZWEILER

I ended up in Aspen, Colo. over break, hoping to enjoy the Winter X-Games. But the ever-present commercialism and overbearing atmosphere of selling-out immediately dashed my rare and dainty optimism.

Admittedly, sponsorship is a major part of so-called "extreme sports." Without leagues and teams, snowboarders, skiers and other athletes look to equipment sponsors and contest winnings as a primary source of income. But most of the companies that sponsor these athletes — with a few notable exceptions — are in touch with the sports. Grassroots companies in the respective industries as well as giants such as Oakley, Burton, Salomon, Smith and even Red Bull promote countercultural images by signing athletes with marketable attitudes. Commercialism is an unavoidable part of alternative sports.

But the X-Games takes it to the next level. Commercialism ran rampant. TV commercial breaks stunted the momentum, speakers blared mainstream pop-punk (another bastardization of something rebellious) and pathetic grown men, oh-so-cleverly sporting free Taco Bell burrito-shaped foam hats continuously obstructed my view of the superpipe. The big X-Games sponsors did nothing to promote that nonconformist, countercultural image that used to propel these sports. Many a young teenager could be seen walking around the event with U.S. Navy giveaway bags, which provided these youngsters with overzealous stickers and propagandist catchphrases about duty and service. The Navy ads try to convince spectators that adrenaline-fueled alternative sports are analogous to armed combat. But their macho statements such as "The job is full time — so is the rush" fail to recognize the irreconcilable gap between the two — one is based in rebellion, the other in conformity.

But at this stage, maybe the Navy is right. Through a TV tuned into ESPN, the viewer sees conformity within the counterculture. Athletes' pants are uniformly baggy; when interviewed, they all hold their skis in view of the cameras — as told — and on the podium, the viewer does not see magnums of champagne or the winner's irresponsible behavior in the local bars later that night. The viewer also does not see how many of the athletes chose their sport because of their disgust with team sports, how they are never drug tested and how many of them have innovated their own styles and own moves, which are aimed at breaking tradition and avoiding conformity. These are not the military types. But the marketing boys at the Navy have strained the grim correlation to the point of believability.

Before the Navy tries to make that connection again, I suggest that the X-Games drug tests each of the athletes and instead of disqualifying those who fail, post competitors' drug test scores next to their competition scores. The correlation would be frightening. Regardless of what the Navy says, achievement in the realm of these sports often involves a lifestyle of long hair and bong rips, not crew cuts and superb posture.

Vermont Teddy Bears gone crazy in love

Midd alum CEO at odds with mental health groups

By Max Nardini
STAFF WRITER

As Valentine's Day approaches, one well-known fact becomes even more strikingly clear: romantic attachment can lead to absolute insanity. The Vermont Teddy Bear Factory's (VTBF) newest holiday stuffed teddy, the "Crazy for You Bear," has made some people mad for the bear and made others just downright mad.

The 15 inch teddy bear is dressed in a straightjacket with a red heart stitched on the front. The accompanying card reads, "Can't Eat, Can't Sleep, My Heart's Racing. Diagnosis — Crazy for You!" The advertisement on the company Web site continues, "Trust us. She'll go nuts over this Bear!"

Several organizations, including the Vermont section of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) were so angered by the bear and its message that they, along with three other organizations, recently met with VTBF President Elisabeth Robert '78, also a Middlebury College Trustee, to express their concerns. These groups cited the bear's trivialization of the suffering of the mentally ill and their proper treatment as the major issue of controversy.

While extending her apologies to anyone offended by the bear, Robert stated that it would be sold through Valentine's Day and then

be terminated.

But the spokespeople of the four organizations that met with Robert claimed that she promised to cease productions and marketing of the "Crazy Bear" immediately. The bear, however, is still listed on the VTBF's Web site and, until it recently sold out, was still available for sale.

Members of the Middlebury community expressed mixed opinions on the matter. Maggie Higgins '08 stated that it had "a really cute name, which does not have a negative context, but a not so cute image [the straightjacketed bear]."

"If you worked or had a close relationship with the mentally ill, I see how it could bother you," Higgins said.

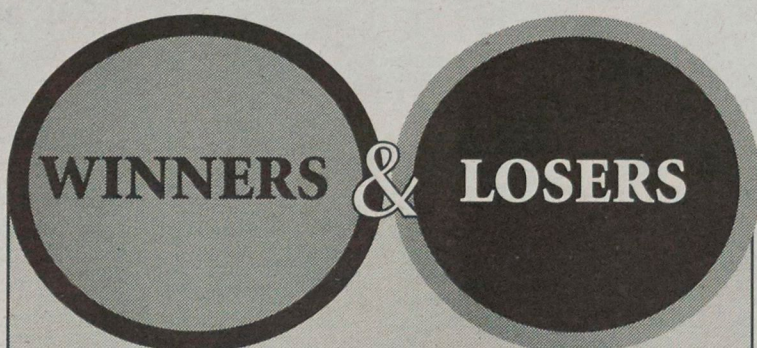
Richard Daniel '08 agreed. "I think it's funny, but I can see where these groups [such as the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill] are coming from," he said.

Commons Residential Advisor for the Wonnacott Commons Marshall Traverse was put off by the straightjacket, but felt the response to the product was overblown. "The idea of a straightjacket is a violent image, more of a restraint. However, I don't feel it should have caused that much controversy," he said.

When in stock, the "Crazy Bear" is available for order at www.VermontTeddyBear.com or by phone at 1-800-829-BEAR.

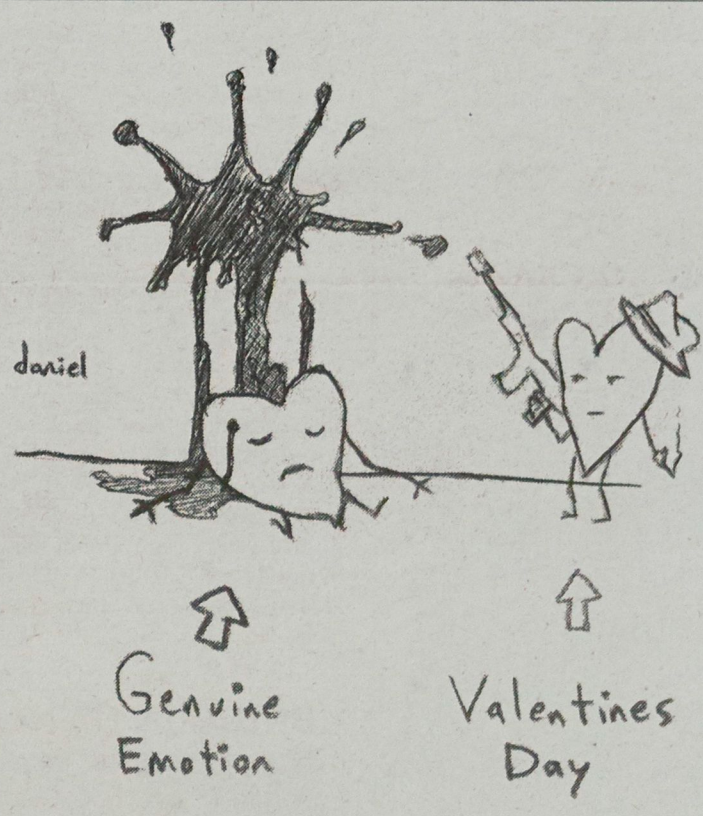


Courtesy
How creatively will YOU express your teddy-bear love this V-day? "Crazy For You Bear" (pictured here) is sold out on the company's Web site, though less controversial V-Day bears remain.



What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

CHARLIE DANIELS	BLACK EYED PEAS
Plays the fiddle like he'd never get a second chance	Give Charlie his Stetson back
COWBOY BOOTS	GALOSHES
Nothing says "man" more than 100 percent pure snakeskin	Do these people not have mirrors?!!
DEEP FAT FRYING	GARDEN BURGERS
Makes anything taste better	Burger plants...who are they trying to fool?



PANTHER TOP 10

What music makes the Middlebury Charts? Here are the weekly top Napster downloads on campus.

1. Green Day — Boulevard of Broken Dreams
2. Maroon 5 — Sunday Morning
3. OutKast — Hey Ya!
4. O-Zone — Dragostea Din Tei
5. Jay-Z — Numb/Encore
6. Celine Dion — A New Day Has Come
7. Maroon 5 — Harder to Breathe
8. Maroon 5 — She Will Be Loved
9. OutKast — So Fresh, So Clean
10. OutKast — Ms. Jackson

arts

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RED BULL
MAYBE NOT WINGS.
BUT DEFINITELY
INSPIRATION.

18

WALK THIS WAY
"RUNWAY" TV SHOW
A STYLISH HIT

The music of J-term: students shine in class and performance

By Virginia Harper
STAFF WRITER

This past January, several Middlebury students had the unique opportunity to participate in a Winter Term class, "Performing Chamber Music," under the guidance of Su Lian Tan, associate professor of Music. The course, which has been offered in previous years, brings together serious musicians — whose academic pursuits range from music to molecular biology to geography — as they spend three hours a day, four days a week throughout the month in rehearsal. This year, cellists, violinists, pianists, a violist, a clarinetist, an oboist and a flautist were represented in the group, providing a multifarious assortment of instruments and a rich sound.

Considering the musicians' instruments, Tan organized the class by selecting appropriate music and dividing the musicians into ensembles. Students practiced individually, but she encouraged their performance as a group. Many of the student musicians knew each other from their involvement in the Middlebury College Orchestra, but the rigorous hours of practicing and the necessity of working together drew them even closer.

"We definitely bonded a lot through the class," said Megan Guiliano '07.5, a violinist who has been playing since age three. "It was really an amazing experience."

The end result was the group's performance on Jan. 27 at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, followed by an afternoon performance in Mead Chapel the next day. The class presented their work to a crowded concert hall full of faculty, students and staff. With a quartet, quintet and two trios, the class performed pieces from a wide range of composers including Beethoven, Shostakovich, Dvorak, Brahms and Holst.

The audience was clearly impressed by the students' performance after only one month of preparations. Caroline Vial '05.5 went to the concert to see a friend perform and was "astounded as to how much sensitivity was invested into the musical performance."

Vial believes the concert was about much more than simply playing the notes on the page.

"The students clearly knew about the context in which the piece had been created," Vial said. "They seemed to be interpreting the emotions of the composer down to the note."

This added element to the performance probably came from Tan's teaching, in which she stressed the importance of looking deeper into a piece, not just scratching the surface.

Preparations for the concert made by Tan and the students were rigorous. Given the short amount of time that the musicians had to prepare for the end of month concert, they worked diligently throughout Winter Term on the selected pieces. After rehearsal hours, the musicians were expected to practice and perfect their own individual parts within the collective ensemble.

Amanda Mitchell '08 an oboist, commented, "I'm not used to playing that much every day or with such a small group of people. However, the class was structured well."

The guidance of Tan, who is an accomplished flautist and teaches composition in the music department, was essential to the success of the group.

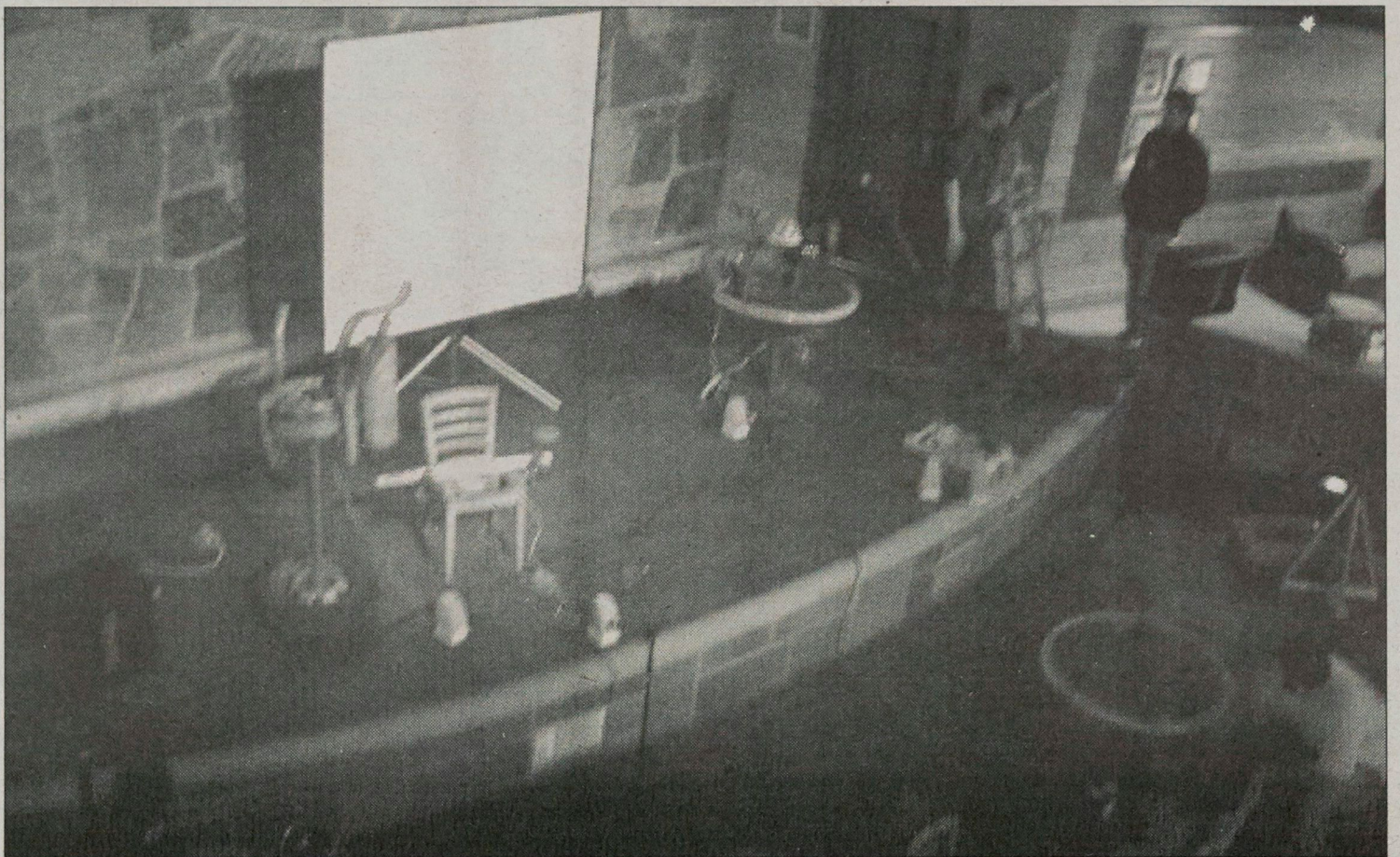
Guiliano, who worked with Tan for the first time in January, noted, "She was a great asset for the class. She is really brilliant and has a lot of energy." Many hope the class will be offered again during next year's Witner Term since it was such a positive experience this year.



Ari Joseph

Student musicians perform a challenging assortment of chamber music in Professor Su Lian Tan's "Performing Chamber Music" Winter Term course.

BRING IN DA NOISE



Ari Joseph

After a month of designing original instruments, the students in the Winter Term course Big Noise showed off their eclectic mix of unorthodox musical instruments at a performance in the Grille.

Red Bull inspires Midd artist

Nicholas Colacchio selected finalist for 1,500 can Red Bull artwork

By Megan O'Keefe
MANAGING EDITOR

Red Bull — the energy drink that is synonymous with vodka-laced partying and study-filled all-nighters — has never been a big hit with idlers. In fact, it is probably safe to say that those serious enough to guzzle multiple cans of the caffeine-loaded beverage are not looking to add to their workload.

But the more Red Bull you drink, the more time you have, right? At least that is the marketing strategy of Red Bull makers, who challenged fans of the drink to create original artworks out of their empty cans this winter.

Despite the gimmicky slogan — “What will a full can of Red Bull inspire you to create out of an empty one?” — at least one Middlebury student found inspiration somewhere between the bright yellow liquid and the surplus of empty cans.

Studio Art major Nicholas Colacchio '05 was among 31 finalists selected in the Red Bull Art of the Can Contest, which drew entries from 400 amateur and not-so-amateur artists around the world.

Ben Cooley '05 was also selected as a finalist for a piece entitled, “Exhausted Energy,” but said he is unsure how Red Bull identified him as the artist because he did not create or submit the piece.

Colacchio's piece, a 14-foot pin-art-style sculpture of a face entitled “Insomnia,” takes its name from his experience in making it. In his artist biography on the contest Web site, Colacchio said, “The majority of time assembling the piece was done the weekends before and after my final exams at school — at one point, I spent 63 consecutive hours working on the piece without sleep.” In total, Colacchio estimates he spent more than 150 hours assembling his sculpture, but months longer conceptualizing and modeling the piece.

As it turns out, during days without sleep, his inspiration came strictly from the cans — not their contents.

“I actually didn't drink any Red Bull as I worked on my piece,” Colacchio noted. Instead, he fueled up on Gatorade, Protein bars and music — “anything from Van Morrison to Mariah Carey's Christmas CD, Ben Harper to Bob Marley, Mozart to Moby.”

Colacchio rarely drinks Red Bull, but collected about 1,500 cans from recycling and redemption centers to create the piece after Dave Irwin '05, Middlebury College's Red Bull representative, told him about the contest.

Colacchio first conceived the idea for the piece several years ago “as something [he] wanted to make out of beer cans in response to [his] experience working with drunk patients as an emergency room technician.” When he discovered the Red Bull contest, Colacchio realized he could adapt his early project to the new medium, noting, “I also just thought it would look sweet if I could pull it off.”

Colacchio's work on the piece was labor intensive. “It definitely competed for time with my other classes, to say the least,” he said, adding, “I can only imagine how I'd do in my other classes if I spent as much time preparing for a paper or oral exam.”

Though Colacchio's piece was not near completion by the preliminary deadline, judges saw enough potential in the sculpture-in-progress to select him as a finalist, giving him the opportunity to come down to Boston and continue to work on the entry.

The 31 selected pieces will be on display for one week, beginning Feb. 26 at the Artists for Humanity Epicenter in South Boston before a panel of judges selects the winning entry.

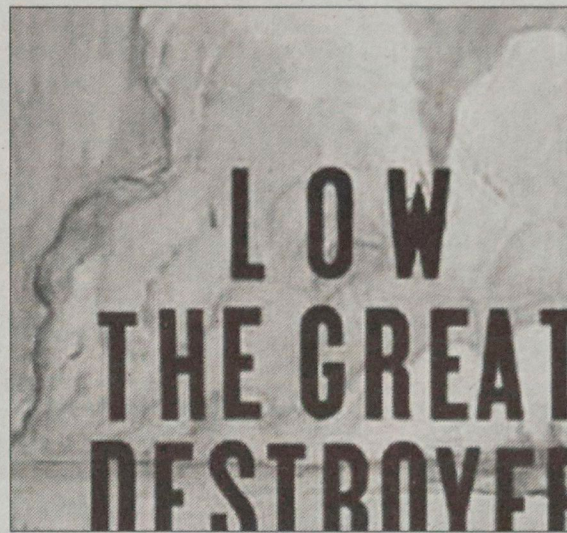
Colacchio will travel to Boston on Feb. 21 to complete work on his piece before the judging and will return for the public exhibition opening on Feb. 26.

A panel of judges including Bobby Hansson, author of *The Fine Art of the Tin Can*; metal artist Boris Bally; painter William Quigley and curatorial assistant for the Institute of Contemporary Art Emily Moore will determine the top three winners. Each entry will be evaluated based on three criteria including: creative concept, conceptual execution and overall construction of the piece. The first prize winner will be awarded a trip for two to the 51st International Arts Festival in Venice, Italy.

Go to redbullartofthecan.com to view and rate all of the entries, including Colacchio's.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY RICHARD LAWLESS



THE ARTIST | LOW

THE ALBUM | THE GREAT DESTROYER

RELEASE DATE | JANUARY 25, 2005

“THE GREAT DESTROYER” WILL BE FEATURED ON WRMC'S “ALBUM OF THE WEEK” THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

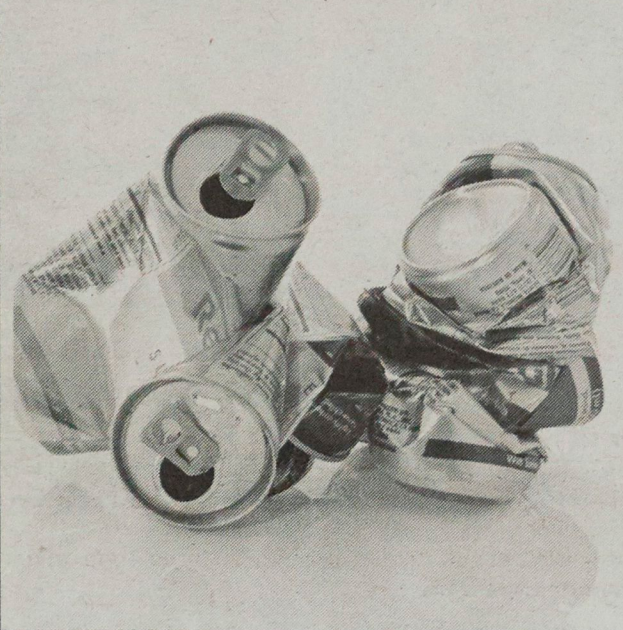
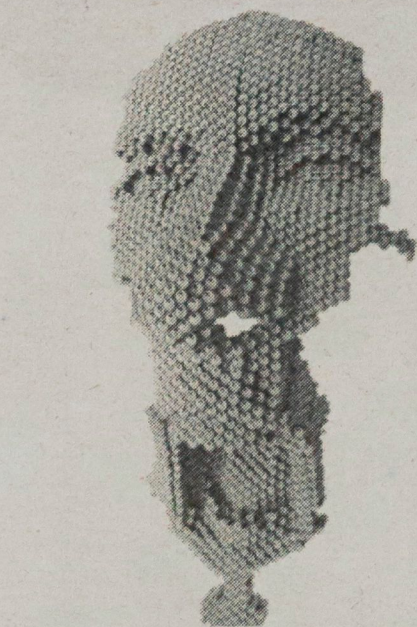
What do you love about New York City? We all love something about it, even if it is the simple act of loving to hate it. It's the city of myth and mystery, and of course, the city that never sleeps. Yes, New York tends to make an enormous and lasting impression on everyone who sets foot on its filthy sidewalks surrounded by skyscrapers that block out the sun. Any artist who visits or lives in New York is compelled to write about it — often. PJ Harvey name-dropped sections of Manhattan while recounting her Big Apple escapades in the excellent “Stories From the City, Stories From the Sea.” The Beastie Boys dedicated their most recent disappointment of an album to the five boroughs. Leonard Cohen coolly depicts his living situation on Clinton Street in the unforgettably haunting “Famous Blue Raincoat.” Low now joins the legions of artists to write about the most ridiculous, exciting, unforgiving and endearing city on this planet.

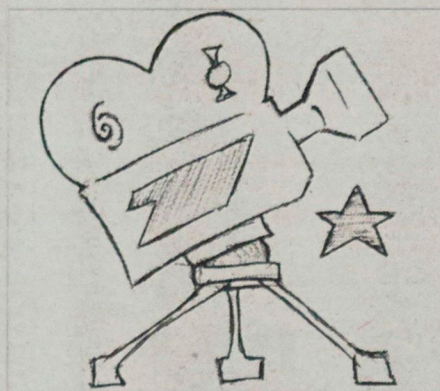
On Low's seventh album — and first for passé label Sub Pop — “The Great Destroyer,” the album climaxes three-quarters of the way through with the seven-minute New York opus “Broadway (So Many People).” Working with producer Dave Fridmann, the man who made the Flaming Lips and Mercury Rev sound so stunningly gorgeous, Alan Spearhawk and Mimi Parker's harmonious voices glide and echo beautifully in the refrain “Where is the laughter?” With shimmering guitars and haunting reverb, Low captures the isolation, confusion and inexplicable warmth that comes from wandering the illuminated New York streets at night. This is the most heartbreaking moment on “The Great Destroyer,” and that's saying something, because it delivers the wistful tearjerkers just like the great Low albums that came before it.

The press surrounding “The Great Destroyer” hailed it as Low's “rock” album. Let me be the first to say that the press is full of it (excluding me). Spearhawk occasionally cranks up the amp a little and adds some distortion to the mix, but don't expect a radical departure at all from “Trust” — which is a good thing, a very good thing. Take, for instance, the opening song, “Monkey” (which you can get for free at www.insound.com). It's easily the most sinister song on the album, with a menacing guitar riff cutting through the air as Spearhawk and Parker finish their chorus chant of, “Tonight you will be mine / Tonight the monkey dies.” I have no idea what that means, but the guitars sound amazing, so I don't care. From there, the album calms down significantly. Witness the lighter second track, “California,” which rides the wave of a pleasant chord progression and gorgeous chorus. Apparently, and I wouldn't know for sure, this song is being used on “The O.C.” I wouldn't be surprised. That terrible show helped make the Walkmen a dormhold name, much like the irritatingly overdone “Garden State” made people aware of The Shins. Angry yet? Good. You should listen to some Low to calm yourself down.

“The Great Destroyer” is an album about aging, made by a band far more mature than even the one that created the gentle melancholy of their 1994 debut “I Could Live in Hope.” Spearhawk sings about an eventual end to his musical career, and his hearing, on the aptly titled, “When I Go Deaf,” crooning: “And, I'll stop writing songs / Stop scratching out lines / I won't have to think / And, It won't have to rhyme / When I go deaf.” Coming in at a close second for most heartbreaking moment on “The Great Destroyer” is the penultimate track, “Death of a Salesman.” A simple melody is framed by Spearhawk's narrative of a man who chose a career in business over music to raise his family comfortably: “So I did what they said / Now my children are fed / 'Cause they pay me to do what I'm asked / I forgot all my songs / The words now are wrong / And I burned my guitar in a rage.” Pass the tissues.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Colacchio's 1,500-can masterpiece, “Insomnia,” in its latest stage of completion. Colacchio uses masking tape and caulk to assemble his massive sculpture. “Exhausted Energy,” the piece Red Bull has mistakenly identified as Cooley's, has reached the final with no owner. The magnitude of Colacchio's project is visible in this photo of his assembly operation.





THE REEL CRITIC

BY STEPHANIE DOSCH

MOVIE | SIDEWAYS

DIRECTOR | ALEXANDER PAYNE
STARRING | THOMAS HADEN CHURCH, PAUL GIAMATTI

I am not a wine connoisseur, so after seeing Alexander Payne's "Sideways," I decided to do a little research. A good Pinot Noir, I discovered, is complex and flavorful, yet delicate, full-bodied and rich, but not heavy, has the texture of liquid silk and is high in alcohol. Other descriptors included fickle, seductively enchanting and intense — descriptions that also fit the movie.

Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church star as Miles and Jack, two middle-aged friends who embark on a wine-tasting road trip through California's wine-growing region. The trip is a gift from depressed divorcee, would-be writer and wine enthusiast Miles to Jack, a has-been wannabe actor and experienced charmer — a last hurrah before Jack ties the knot. But what was meant as a relaxing week of food, wine and golf soon devolves into a funny exploration of love, friendship and the subtle differences between Pinot and Cabernet.

Jack sees the trip as his last taste of freedom and plans to act accordingly. So when the friends meet Maya (Virginia Madsen), a wine-savvy waitress, and Stephanie (Sandra Oh), a sexy wine-pourer at a local vineyard, Jack jumps at the opportunity for one last romp and encourages Miles to do the same. Miles likes Maya but isn't ready to move on from his divorce. Meanwhile, Jack falls for Stephanie and threatens to call off his nuptials. Miles tries to keep Jack on the straight-and-narrow, but the friends spiral into a deception as dizzying as a few too many bottles of cheap Merlot, causing them to reflect on their own failed dreams and hopes for happiness.

Written and directed by Alexander Payne ("Election," "About Schmidt"), "Sideways" is as wry and witty as they come. A stunning dialogue between Miles and Maya about the subtleties of Pinot Noir, Miles' preferred varietal (he *hates* Merlot), has already sent its sales soaring. But while the script contains all of the film's flavors, it is the actors who bring them out. Madsen and Church have both been nominated for Academy Awards for their supporting roles in the movie. On the other hand, Giamatti, who delivers a superbly subtle performance, is noticeably missing from the Best Actor category, to the chagrin of many critics.

Nevertheless, "Sideways" has been nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and deservedly so. They say a great Pinot Noir creates a lasting impression on the palate and in the memory, and "Sideways" is no different. Actor and script come together to create a heady mix of introspection, audacity, comedy and romance, as deliciously intoxicating as a case of the finest Californian wines. Or for us college students, a box of Franzia or jug of Carlo.

"Sideways" is playing in Middlebury at the Marquis Theater, at the Majestic 10 in Williston and at the Essex Outlets Cinema in Essex Junction.

WATCH THIS SPACE

— BY SHEILA SELES

Slip on your moccasins, comb your faux-hawk into place and get ready for the show that has fashionistas from coast to coast cheering. "Project Runway," the latest brainchild of entertainment mega-moguls Harvey and Bob Weinstein (with help from super-model Heidi Klum), airs on Bravo at 9 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The premise: 12 amateur designers compete to win a reality show contest by tackling a new fashion challenge each week. Some past challenges include creating a wedding dress, updating the U.S. Postal Service uniform and making a bathing suit that could double as evening wear. A panel of fashion heavyweights then evaluates all the designs and chooses to eliminate the weakest designer. The last three designers left got to show their fashions on the catwalk during New York's Fashion Week last Friday. The result is still under wraps due to the show's production delay. The winning designer gets a fashion designer's dream package: \$100,000 to start his or her own fashion line, a mentorship from Banana Republic and a fashion spread in *Elle* magazine.

On paper, "Project Runway" seems like a typical reality show contest in the vein of "The Apprentice." In truth, it is. The premise follows the formula for a successful reality contest show: "Project Runway" has a bunch of young people living in a pimped-out apartment, projects that test human endurance (in this case, short deadlines and long hours) and plenty of personality conflicts. "Project Runway" stands out among other reality shows, however, because it lets the viewer into a very glamorous microcosm of society — the fashion world. "Project Runway" gives us a brief but fascinating look at what it takes to design, make and show clothing. Each week we follow the designers to fabric stores and sewing studios as their creations come to life.

The show started in early December, and this week's episode is the last before fashion week. Things are heating up as only four designers remain. Bravo's not hiding its lust for ratings — it seems like the designers with the most personality, not necessarily the most talent, remain. For example, Wendy should have been fired last week. Her updated design of the postal uniform looked exactly like the current postal uniform, but I'm sure the producers want to keep her around as an antagonistic force. She's the oldest contestant by far and she makes no attempt to connect with the other contestants, which makes for tense situations all around. And while tension does not a reality show make, tension does make a reality show more interest-



ing. Of the other remaining designers, Kara has the best track record, which makes sense since she works as a professional designer and stylist. But Austin and Jay, the last two contestants, each have a lot of flair and could give Kara a run for her money.

The designers also have to work with models, which usually makes for some interesting television. While these models don't have the panache of Derek Zoolander, they are far more than just glorified mannequins. In past episodes, the designers have had to deal with models who ruined the clothes and models who couldn't walk in the clothes, but the most interesting model snafu happened when Jay's model didn't show up at all. Pressed to find an emaciated six-foot woman in the frantic final minutes before the runway show, Jay finally asked fellow designer Austin to step in as a model. If Austin's career as a designer falls through, he'd make a terrific model. He strode down the runway with a graceful model's prance and resisted the urge to sabotage Jay's design. The model's failure to show up seemed like a planned plot twist, but to enjoy "Project Runway," you have to embrace the show's fabulousness and ignore loose threads in logistics.

This week's "Project Runway" promises a tough competition, as the last designer will be eliminated before Fashion Week. The designers will be creating a dress suitable to wear at the Grammy Awards (sounds like a good place to get ideas for that Winter Carnival dress). Go on, give yourself over to fashion.

ANOTHER AWARD SHOW

The 47th Annual Grammy Awards promise to be as exciting as ever this year with a performance line up that includes Gwen Stefani, Los Lonely Boys, Maroon5, Green Day, J-Lo and Marc Anthony, Lynyrd Skynyrd and Ludacris. The Grammys will be hosted by Queen Latifah and will air on CBS at 8 p.m.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

"Genius Loves Company" Ray Charles and Various Artists
 "American Idiot" Green Day
 "The Diary of Alicia Keys" Alicia Keys
 "Confessions" Usher
 "The College Dropout" Kanye West

BEST ROCK ALBUM

"The Delivery Man" Elvis Costello & The Imposters
 "American Idiot" Green Day
 "The Reason" Hoobastank
 "Hot Fuss" The Killers
 "Contraband" Velvet Revolver

BEST ALTERNATIVE MUSIC ALBUM

"Medulla" Björk
 "Franz Ferdinand" Franz Ferdinand
 "Uh Huh Her" PJ Harvey
 "Good News For People Who Love Bad News" Modest Mouse
 "A Ghost Is Born" Wilco

BEST RAP ALBUM

"To The 5 Boroughs" Beastie Boys
 "The Black Album" Jay-Z
 "The Definition" LL Cool J
 "Suit" Nelly
 "The College Dropout" Kanye West

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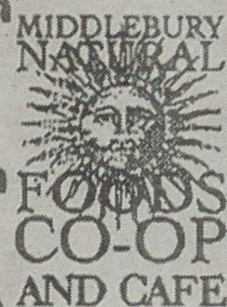
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 Seltan Stew
 Lasagna
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Men's hoops shoots blanks in recent losses

Tough times on the court as men's basketball claims one win from last nine



Julia Randall

Senior forward Adam Sinoway launches a three against Tufts. The Panthers fell to the Jumbos in overtime drama.

By Eri Nosaka
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury men's basketball team seems to be the underdog team of the season. As they approach their last three games of the season with a record of 6-15 and a NESCAC record of 1-6, the Panthers are mustering up everything they have to make the playoffs starting Feb. 19.

With four consecutive losses over the past week to Norwich, Trinity, Amherst and Williams, the men's basketball team attempts to focus and improve on their weaknesses, endurance and defense for their next three opponents — Colby College, Bowdoin College and Plattsburgh.

On Jan. 29 Middlebury faced Williams in one of the most highly anticipated games of the season. The Panthers challenged the Ephs by coming within one point with 7:24 minutes left before halftime. But, as the game progressed, Middlebury lost to Williams with a score of 72-54.

On Feb. 1, Norwich took an early lead and led 45-27 at the end of the first half. The Panthers never quite caught up and lost with a score of 86-70.

On Feb. 4, Middlebury was defeated by Trinity College with a score of 94-70. Similar to the game against Williams, the Panthers came out strong at the beginning of the game, only to lose their momentum

in the second half.

Middlebury played Amherst College on Feb. 5. The team struggled from the beginning and Amherst capitalized on that and took an early lead in the game. Amherst, ranked fourth in the nation, proved to be a superior team and defeated Middlebury by 32 points.

The key players in the four games were Bobby Marcoux '07, Simon Behan '05, Clark Read '05, Adam Sinoway '05 and Mike Salek '05.

With a disappointing few weeks, the Middlebury Panthers, although upset, still manage to be optimistic in anticipation of the next few games.

"It has been tough with so many losses but the guys are doing well and [are] determined to end on a good note. Bowdoin, and Colby are both good teams, but in the past few years we've done really well against them. So hopefully we will get some good results this weekend," said Read.

If the Panthers win against Bowdoin and Colby they will be guaranteed a spot in the playoffs. However, if they win against only one team then there will be less of a certainty that they will play in the first round of the playoffs.

With this formula looming on the horizon, the Panther team must get back to their winning ways in order to salvage a playoff berth from a less than impressive record.

Women's hockey plows ahead

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Gloria Velez made two goals and an assist within the game, while fellow teammate Tory MacNeil added a pair of goals. Individual goals came from Shannon Tarrant and Shannon Sylvester.

Look out for fiery play on the

eighth of February, as the girls defend their home ice from the team that gave them their one loss of the season, Plattsburgh.

With only five more games until the post-season begins for the women, we should expect a continuation of their strong record from the regular season.

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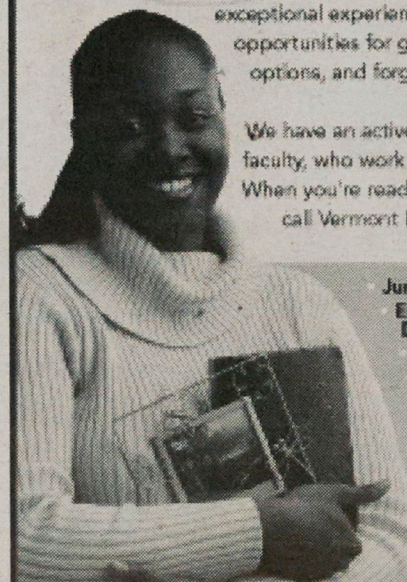
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Ladies drop two meets before rallying at MIT



Julia Randall

Gasping for breath, a Middlebury swimmer helped her team defy their 5-5 record at MIT, with broken records.

By Sarah Poling-Luehrman
STAFF WRITER

A four-meet winning streak ended for the Middlebury women's swimming and diving team when they faced first Williams, perennial NESCAC champions, on Jan. 29 and then Dartmouth, a Division I team, on Feb. 2, both in the Middlebury Natatorium.

Williams proved to be the toughest competition the team has faced thus far, and although Middlebury lost 167-131. "The competition between the two schools was tighter than what the score might suggest," said Head Coach Peter Solomon. The Panthers won 7 of 16 events, and in some of those

they lost, they finished behind by mere fractions of a second. "Had we been able to pull off just two more close wins," said Solomon, "the team scores would have come out 151-147 in our favor. To be only two wins away from dethroning a team that has only loss 1 dual meet in the past 120 competitions is something that I am very pleased about."

Marika Ross '08 had a particularly good meet against Williams, with three first place finishes in the 100 fly, 200 fly and 400 IM. Her time of 4:35.09 in the 400 IM broke a varsity record and qualified as an NCAA "B" standard, while her times of 57.87 in the 100

fly and 2:04.62 in the 200 fly broke the varsity record and the pool record and qualified as NCAA "A" standard. Her consistently strong swimming also contributed to the 200 free relay team's outstanding performance.

Barbara Van Der Veer '07, Pam Chatikavanij '08, Liz Rice '07 and Ross finished second to Williams, but their time of 1:39.28 earned the team another NCAA "B" standard recognition. Sara Cowie '08 also contributed a strong individual performance and took first place in the 500 free and the 1650 free. Her time of 17:44.46 in the 1650 free earning yet another NCAA "B" recognition.

At the other end of the pool, Middlebury divers stepped up to the board and performed outstandingly against Williams. Not only did Tessa Truex '05 deliver two more first place finishes in both the 1m and 3m diving categories, but Alana Hanson finished just behind her in the 1m category, both divers earning NCAA recognition.

"We can hang with this team," says Solomon. "NESCAC's is just around the corner, and if we compete like we have all season long, and our swimmers and divers 'step-up', then perhaps we can become the first team since 1987 to beat Williams at a Conference Championships."

The following weekend's 113.5-144.5 loss to Dartmouth proved that "our team was a little flat coming off a big weekend with Williams," commented Solomon. "On a different day, I think we could have beaten Dartmouth." Nonetheless, Ross set two more pool records in the 50 Fly with a 26.56 and in the 100 IM with a 1:00.23, also a varsity record.

The MIT Invitational on February 5th marked the last meet of the regular season before the NESCAC Championships. Team scores were not kept at MIT. It was all about racing the clock.

"The swimmers and divers got out the razors, and literally shaved seconds off of their times to finish the year with some personal best times and scores," commented Solomon. "You could sense the excitement and spirit of the team watching teammate after teammate touch the wall only to celebrate another great performance."

Individual performances con-

tinued to impress — Ross picked up wins in both the 200 free and the 500 free, Cowie won the 200 fly, Anna Blasiak '07 won the 200 breast and Truex added yet another diving victory to her season with a first place win in the 3m competition.

The MIT Invitational was significant meet for the Panthers, especially those who will not be able to compete in the NESCAC meet, as there is a roster limit of 24 swimmers. For some, the meet was their last racing opportunity this season.

"If attitude and work ethic were the only criteria used in the selection process, many of the athletes finishing up this past weekend would have been the first names on our conference roster," said Solomon. "I have the utmost appreciation for all that these individuals bring to our team, and couldn't have been happier to see all their hard work pay off in big dividends this past weekend's meet at MIT. It was an appropriate finish to their great season."

NESCACs are coming up for the swimming and diving team, and they will be hosted at Middlebury for the first time on Feb. 18 and 19. The Panthers will be training hard until then, hoping to give their strongest performance yet and make Williams fight harder than they have ever had to.

"Wouldn't it be the perfect script to our season, considering that this is the first time our school has ever hosted the championships," said Solomon of the prospect of beating Williams. The team can only swim as they have been and round out a competitive and successful season.

Women lose four of five to NESCAC rivals

Panthers record falls to 10-12 on the season after another tough week of play

By Heather Wright
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury College women's basketball team has moved to 10-11 in the past two weeks. They are 3-4 in NESCAC play after falling to Amherst by four points on Saturday.

On Thursday, Jan. 27 the Panthers played Keene State at Pepin Gym in a close match. The two teams stayed even throughout the course of the game. Middlebury was tied with the Owls with just second's left on the clock. Captain Elyse Carlson '05 hit a three with five seconds left which gave Middlebury the game with a score of 54-51. Keene had a chance to tie it with a three at the buzzer, but luckily for the Panthers the shot was off target.

On Jan. 29 Middlebury traveled down to Williams where they saw a two-game winning streak come to an end. The Panthers were no match for a strong Ephs team as they fell 81-65. Williams shot .487 from the floor in the first half and that made it hard for Middlebury to regroup in the second half.

Middlebury faced Hamilton at home in a non-league game on Feb. 1st. The Panthers played a close first half, going into halftime behind by three points. However, the Continentals came out strong in the second half and the final score was 63-52.

The Panthers hosted Trinity on Feb. 4th and with the decisive win moved to 3-3 in NESCAC play. The

final score was 60-49 and Middlebury was able to hold the Bantams to .282 shooting from the floor. Middlebury came out strong from the beginning and started with an 11-3 lead. Kate Fisher '08 who had 12 points and five of six shooting helped out the Panthers.

After a big win against Trinity, Middlebury was unable to come out on top when they faced Amherst last Saturday. The Panthers held a five point first-half lead, but fell by four to Amherst in a close match that ended 58-54.

This past Tuesday, the Panther women faced off against a tough Plattsburgh squad and once again wound up on the short end of the stick.

The resilient hardcourt team fought hard and battled, but fell one point short in a 58-59 loss. After the final buzzer had sounded, Plattsburgh found themselves shooting free-throws for the game. Unfortunately for Middlebury, one was enough to send the Panthers packing.

Clearly struggling without inspirational guard Katie Fehsenfeld '06, the Panther offense has lost its rhythm and will need to regain the confidence they once had if they want to make a push at the post-season. The Panthers travel to Maine this weekend to face Bowdoin and Colby, respectively. These are the Panthers final regular season games and the first round of NESCAC begins on Feb. 19.



Sixiao Huo

Micaela McVary '06 brings the ball upcourt against a Hamilton defender during recent NESCAC competition



Column as I see 'em

BY JEFF PATTERSON

When Philadelphia fans heard that TO would play, they were so excited that they didn't listen to the entire sentence: TOs (a.k.a. turnovers) would play a huge part in the Patriots victory in Super Bowl XXXIX. Donovan McNabb threw three costly interceptions, while another was erased when Roman Phifer was flagged for a penalty. Furthermore, until Sunday night, NFL viewers had never seen L.J. Smith lose a fumble. But then again, NFL viewers have never seen a team like the Patriots.

Injuries are the only opponents that can beat the Patriots. Before beating the Eagles, Belichick's Blitzers didn't give up any touchdowns to Peyton Manning, the all-time leader in single-season touchdown passes and they made quarterback, Ben Roethlisberger, who had never lost a pro game, looked like he had never won one. They did this without Richard Seymour, their three-time Pro Bowler and Tyrone Poole, who played 13 games this season. Yet the Lawless defense stayed flawless. Rookie Randall Gay, who made 10 tackles, filled-in better than taco meat.

The Office of Learning Resources needs to call Andy Reid and request that he works on his time management skills. When the Eagles chose to huddle-up on second down with under a minute to go, the clock proved to run more than Donovan McNabb, as the former did and the former Big East rookie of the year didn't. McNabb didn't run at all. The 240 pound QB is one of the best players in the league because he is an above average runner and has an above average arm, but just an above average arm will never have a chance against Tom Brady. Brady has bunched together post-season wins over his college and professional career, accumulating 11. Middlebury College doesn't even have half that many different Commons. Brady has never lost.

I've never lost my room key, but I've only been at Middlebury for six days. I've never lost a Middlebury golf match, but I haven't played in one. I've never lost my wallet, but I carry a money clip. Tom Brady is undefeated in the playoffs and will stay that way next year, as long as the team stays out of the trainer's room.

Deion Branch, now the record holder for receptions in consecutive I-don't-switch-channels-during-commercials-games, deservingly won the MVP. Number 83's last name is fitting because Boston (and New England) is celebrating the accomplishments of its sports teams with a party the size of a Redwood tree. The celebrating is understandable. The Patriots have won three out of four Superbowls, the Red Sox won the World Series, the men's Boston College basketball squad is 20-0, and the Celtics are in first place in the Atlantic division.

There are some big games coming up for our Panthers, hopefully Middlebury, Vermont can contribute to the party.

Men continue to sink in NESCAC

Swimmers and Divers drop third and fourth straight meets

By Zamir Ahmed
SPORTS EDITOR

While most Middlebury students were enjoying a relaxing week off, the men's swimming and diving team took on a busy schedule, participating in three meets over the break.

The team hosted Williams College and Dartmouth University at the Natatorium before traveling to Massachusetts to take part in the MIT Invitation, competing against six other schools from the region.

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Middlebury	104
Williams	196

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

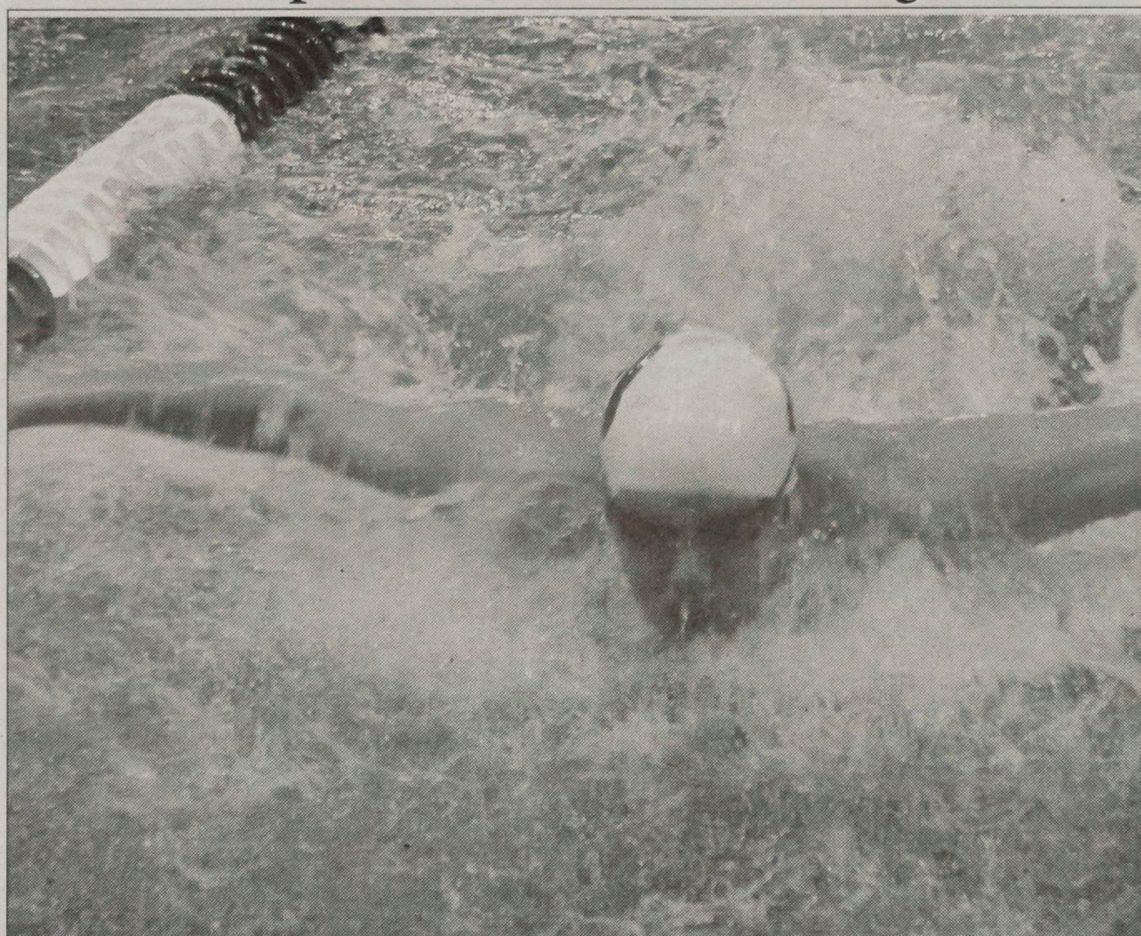
Middlebury	106
Dartmouth	146

On Jan. 29 the team played host to Williams, the defending NESCAC champions. Despite having four swimmers win solo events at the meet, the team was overmatched and fell by a score of 196-104.

The Panthers were paced by Captain Jason Korsmeyer '05, a winner in the 100y backstroke in a time of 53.47 seconds, and by Rob Collier '07, the winner in the 200y butterfly in a time of 1:57.49.

Other first-place finishers at the meet were Peter Bell '08 in the 100y breaststroke, who won the event in 1:00.85 and Austin Krissoff '06, who won the 200y freestyle in a time of 1:46.88.

The team was also helped by several second place finishes. First-year Robbie Burton took second in the 200y freestyle while Tim Lux '07 added a second-place finish in the 100y breaststroke. Collier also added a pair of seconds in the 200y backstroke and the 400y IM while John Rayburn '06 and Guillermo



Sixiao Huo

Difficult results continue to drown out the Panthers hopes for a successful season and post-season dreams.

Garcia '08 had second place finishes in the 50y freestyle and 500y freestyle, respectively. Michael Young '07 led the diving team, finishing 2nd in the 3m and a third in the 1m.

On Feb. 2, the Panthers took on Dartmouth at the Natatorium. The Division I Big Green proved to be too much for Middlebury, taking the meet with a score of 146-106. The loss was the Panthers' fourth in a row and dropped their record to 3-5 on the year.

Dual winner Lux and David Hawkins '05 collected the Panthers'

only individual victories on the day. Lux took the 50y breaststroke and 100y breaststroke, both ahead of second place finisher Bell, while Hawkins posted a win in the 50y butterfly and added a second place finish in the 50y freestyle.

On Feb. 5, the team traveled to Cambridge to test themselves in the M.I.T. Invitational. There the Panthers were able to weigh their strengths against familiar opponents in preparation for the upcoming NESCAC championships.

The team was led by Collier and Bell, who were the team's only

winners.

Bell took first in the 100y breaststroke in 1:00.63 and finished second in the 200y breaststroke, finishing the race in 2:14.28. Collier added a victory in the 200y IM with a time of 1:59.74. Young had a good meet as well, posting second place finishes in both the 1m and 3m diving competitions.

The team now has two weeks off to prepare for the NESCAC championships, held Feb 25 to 27 at Wesleyan College. There, they will look to improve on their fourth-place finish last year.

Skiers carve through competition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

fourth top 10 finish of the season. Nickerson and Weiss traded places atop the podium, making it three straight giant slalom victories for the Dartmouth first-years.

"I was lucky to get the opportunity to go," commented Everett on his breakthrough weekend. "Obviously I was pretty nervous in the start gate, but everything seemed to come together."

"Everett, Krissie, Megan and Tara were stellar," added Phillips. "The UVM Carnival tested our ability to remain persistent and to battle through some really tough conditions. We pulled through pretty well and even though we could have skied a little faster, we made it happen."

Head Coach Forest Carey was happy to see his team's progression up to the mid-point of the season as the Panthers finished only six points behind Dartmouth for second place in the alpine classification.

"We showed what we're capable of doing with a full team," said Carey referring to Hughes and co-captain Jess Smith '04.5 each missing one of the first two carnivals. "Stowe is the most challenging hill we'll face all year and we'll see it again at NCAA's, so it was great to see we could do, especially the younger skiers. We're on an upward path and look forward to the Dartmouth carnival next week."

ward to the Dartmouth carnival next week."

The Middlebury men's nordic ski team also enjoyed a successful carnival weekend with a third place in the 10km classic on Friday and a second place in the grueling 20km freestyle mass start event on Saturday.

Garrott Kuzzy '06 showed why head coach Terry Aldrich considers him to be "truly one of the top collegiate skiers in the east" leading the Panthers with top four performances in both events. In the 10km classic, Kuzzy took fourth, just 35 seconds off the pace set by UVM's Ethan Foster. Making his first carnival appearance of the season, Beau Baldock '07 took 11th followed by Dan Skold '07 in 18th.

Saturday's 20km freestyle mass start proved even better for the Panther men with Kuzzy moving up one spot to reach the podium, once again behind UVM's Foster and Lowell Bailey. Baldock skated his way to another 11th place finish, followed by Jimmy Ades '08 in 13th, Jake Whitcomb '06 in 14th and Skold in 20th.

On the women's side, the Panthers started to show some improvement, placing two skiers in the top 10 in Saturday's 15km freestyle mass start. Evelyn Dong '07 continued to impress her coaches with an eighth place finish in the freestyle

This past weekend the team started to show their ability and I believe we will see continued improvement.

— Coach Terry Aldrich

after reaching as high as fourth position during the race. Jenny Jorvig '06 posted a solid ninth place, while Claire Anderson '06 scored for the Panthers in 18th. Dartmouth's Alison Crocker took the victory to complete the double after winning on Friday, leading the Big Green into three out of the top four places both days.

Friday's 5km classic showcased the women's depth, placing all six racers in the top 30. Jorvig led the Panthers with a 12th place finish, followed by Dong in 20th, Taylor Leach '06 in 21st, Lizzie Torkelson '07 in 22nd, Anderson in 23rd and Tyne Pike-Sprenger '05 in 26th.

Coach Aldrich praised Kuzzy's consistent results and noted surprise contributions from Dong and Ades. Encouraged by the squad's performance Aldrich said, "We have had exceptional individual performances but our results thus far have not been indicative of the team's overall ability. This past weekend the team started to show their ability and I believe we will see continued im-

provement as we near the end of the season and the Eastern Championships on our home course at Middlebury."

Prior to the UVM Carnival, the Panthers took third at the St. Michael's Carnival on Jan. 28 and 29, finishing just 39 points behind second place Dartmouth and 84 behind first place UVM.

On the alpine side, the men struggled in the giant slalom at Smugglers Notch but rebounded to win the slalom the next day. Clayton Reed '08 took second, followed by Rusten in fifth and Alex Tarberry '08 in 10th. The women skied well, taking third in the giant slalom and second in the slalom. Hughes and Lindsay Brush collected top 10 finishes in each event, while Martin took sixth in the slalom.

Kuzzy paced the nordic squad with a fifth place in the 10km classic and a third place in the 10km pursuit, while Dong was the top female finisher for the Panthers both days.

The Panthers next take part in the Dartmouth Carnival on Feb. 11.

Rollercoaster ride moves on

Men's hockey win, lose and tie over break



Julia Randall

Middlebury's rearguard looks to keep the puck out of harms way while flexing their defensive muscle.

By Jason Lockhart

STAFF WRITER

The men's ice hockey team looked as if they were ready to climb out of their rut after starting a three game winning streak against the likes of Plattsburgh, St. Anselm and New England, all of which are quality opponents. However, since then, the Panthers have continued to hit a few more snags in the road, following up their winning streak with a tie and a loss in the past four games.

The Panthers struggled to earn three points at home just as February Break started. On Friday they could not get the much needed the timely goal, earning a tie against a highly skilled Babson squad 1-1. Saturday they were able to muster enough goals to get a close victory over lowly U-Mass Boston by the score of 2-1.

This past weekend the Panthers traveled to NESCAC foes Amherst and Hamilton. There they squeaked out a victory against Amherst 3-2, but fell to Hamilton by the same score on Saturday.

The key component to the Panthers sudden drop in consistency is the lack of goal scoring. Since a 7-0 win over Tufts on Jan. 8, the Panthers

have failed to score more than four goals in a game. Prior to the three game slide against Bowdoin, Colby and Williams the Panthers were scoring on average five goals per game. Since then, the Panthers have scored only 2.4 goals per game.

"We do not have one guy that will always get the goal every night," admitted Darwin Hunt '07. "Every game there will be a different hero. As a team we are starting to understand that we can not wait around for someone else to do it for us.

The Panthers have had to rely more heavily than usual on the goaltending tandem of Yen-I Chen '06 and Ross Cherry '08. "Both Chen and Cherry have been playing well, and they will continue to be a big factor in our success," said Mickey Gilchrist '08.

The Panthers have recently struggled to put teams away, a departure from how they did earlier in the season. They have allowed teams to get back into the game during the late stages of the third period.

In the U-Mass Boston game, the Panthers were clinging to a 2-0 lead until halfway through the third

when they gave up a power play goal to the Beacons. Luckily, Middlebury was able to hang on for the win.

The following weekend saw a similar situation with the Panthers taking a quick 3-0 lead against Amherst, only to see it cut to one near the end of the game.

The Panthers recent tendencies of giving up late goals finally caught up to them on Saturday as the Panthers allowed a late third period goal against Hamilton, dropping the team's record to 14-4-2.

"We have been completely out-playing teams for 40 of 60 minutes," said Hunt. "To be successful we have to get to the point where we are playing a full three periods of our best hockey.

The Panthers are certainly not out of the running by any stretch, tied for second in the NESCAC standings. Goaltender Chen still has confidence the team can go far, stating, "Championship teams are made during these times and we need to approach this situation as a challenge. I think that this experience will help us build the necessary character that will enable us to have success down the stretch."

Track up to speed in NH

By Tom McCann

SPORTS EDITOR

The Feb break that provides such a welcome transition from Winter Term to the Spring semester was anything but relaxing for the men and women indoor track teams, as they headed to Dartmouth last weekend. Whether they were coming from campus, home or a cozy New Hampshire cabin, Middlebury's finest headed down to Hanover for their penultimate opportunity to qualify for the Division III New England Championships to be held later this month.

On the women's side, Alli Williams '05 stood out for the Panthers in the 800m, coming home in a time of 2:26.01, good enough for fifth place on the day. In the field events, Jen Currie '08 was the star of the show, launching for 12.96m in the weight throw. Her toss was good enough to earn her third-place in the event, the highest performing Panther women in the meet.

Williams, one of the captains of the team this year, has been a consistently high performer during

the season, and will look to continue that as she leads her women into a meet at Tufts next weekend. The trip down to Boston represents a final chance for some athletes to claim their place at the N.E. Championships just around the corner.

Turning to the men, the 200m saw Kevin Bright '06 run the 200m in 23.30, carrying him to the tape in eighth place, while first-year Patrick Swan went two better in the 400m, finishing sixth in a time of 51.41.

Jon Erwin '05 was another runner who finished in the top 10, placing eighth in the 800m, while Nick Digani '05 showed Middlebury just what it will be missing when he graduates later this year, breaking his own school record (again), in the same race, finishing second in 1:54.94.

While Digani may have broken his record once more, the only Middlebury athlete to claim top-spot went to first-year Jimmy Butcher, who, defying his youth and relative lack of intercollegiate racing experience, turned in a startling perfor-

mance in the 3000m, winning by a margin of more than four seconds in a time of 9:02.45. The 60m hurdles saw junior Matt Engler finish sixth in the final, breaking the tape in 8.80, while Middlebury's relay teams also performed well, taking fourth place in the 4x400m, and second in the distance relay.

With the indoor track season moving into the business end, it's time for the Bright's and Digani's of the world to start honing themselves for a push at Championship honors, while for many others, qualification for the invitationals rest on a final opportunity at Tufts next weekend.

However, when the curtain comes down on the indoor season, the curtain is almost simultaneously raised on the outdoor track and field season. Indeed with the weather as it currently is, Middlebury's athletes may be able to get out there even earlier than usual, greatly benefiting both male and female athletes on the field and on the track. For now though, it's all eyes on Tufts.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY RYAN W. REESE, SPORTS EDITOR

Gifis '05 nets NESCAC honor



Julia Randall

Senior forward Lorna Gifis was named NESCAC Player of the Week for her efforts on the ice. She absolutely exploded over the course of the past week by notching eight goals in three games for the Panther women. Middlebury went 2-1 on the week and picked up two important league wins in the process. Obviously, Gifis was instrumental in the successful week. Gifis tallied a brace in the loss against Plattsburgh. She was clearly not in the mood to lose again versus Connecticut College and knocked four goals of her own in the 8-1 clinic. She then finished up her week with another pair in a win against the always-tough Amherst skaters. This past week, she more than doubled her season goal tally and is now sitting at 15 strikes in all. She leads the team in this category as well as total points scored. The senior is currently sitting at 27 goals with many more to come in the remainder of the season.

Warmth brings out runners

As all of us know, this past week has been quite balmy for February weather in Middlebury. In all actuality, we should be walking around with no exposed skin and not going outside for any reason except basic survival needs. For some of us, that might mean strictly dining hall visits and for others it could mean skiing, broomballing and all sorts of foolishness. On account of this recent heat wave, Midd-kids have thrown the standard February outdoor policies out the proverbial window. On a trip to the bank yesterday, there were upwards of 50 runners/joggers. Don't doubt it. In a trip that totals less than a mile or so, more than 50 people were observed getting their cardio on. Also, on a sidenote, 47 of them had iPods. There is a perfectly logical explanation for this warm weather. Punxatawnie Phil did not see his shadow and winter is over. That's right. No more cold weather. You heard it here first and you'll hear it other places later. Happy spring.

Equestrian schedule confirmed

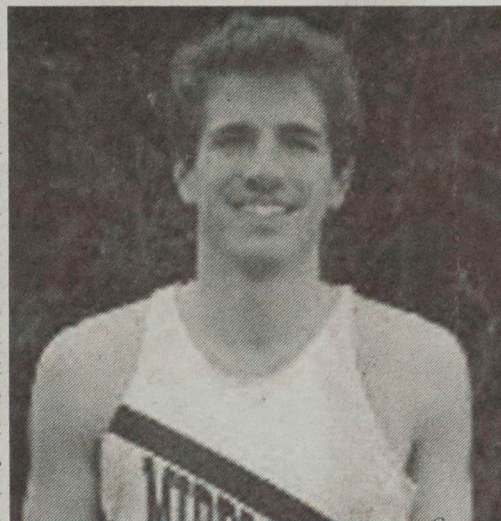
The Middlebury College Equestrian team has just finalized their competition schedule for the spring. In the upcoming months, the riders will be trotting, cantering and jumping in three competitions against a wide variety of schools and clubs. Junior Mercy Trent is the current captain of the squad after recently returning from her study abroad experience in Paris. The team will be facing off at Mount Ida College on March 6, they will be at UVM on March 12 and will be coming home to Middlebury to host their own competition the following day. Trent commented that the team is looking forward to the spring season and have high hopes to represent the club well. The very regal sport has a small but loyal following and they would love to see more Panther spectators in attendance. The riders will soon start practice and can't wait to get back in the saddle again.

Digani '05 breaks 800m record

Senior runner Nick Digani of Northfield Illinois added another chapter to his already astounding Middlebury Track career. This past weekend, on the indoor track at Dartmouth College, Digani erased another school record. It was not an age-old record that had not fallen in eons. Quite the opposite, Digani's own mark in the 800 meters, set only last year, found itself replaced with a stunning new time.

After covering 800 meters, he crossed the finish line in only 1:54.94. He ended up finishing second in the race and is well on his way to the championship meets coming up towards the end of the season. The indoor season is important; However, the showcase begins when the runners move outdoors for the spring season.

There is no doubt that Digani will be up to the challenge in the coming months and will want to finish his incredible Middlebury career in high fashion.



Courtesy

campusports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2005

Lucky number "3" sums up ski team's break Panther skiers consistent; place third in carnivals at St. Michael's and UVM

By Kellan Florio
STAFF WRITER

After a third place finish at the Bates Carnival to open the 2005 season, the Panther ski teams posted two more thirds at the St. Michael's Carnival and UVM Carnival over the winter break.

Dominant performances by Dartmouth's men's alpine and women's nordic teams powered the Big Green to their first victory of the season last weekend at the UVM carnival with a total of 684.5 points. UVM claimed second on their home turf for a second consecutive season with 648 points, while Middlebury followed in third with 607.5 points, well ahead of fourth place Williams.

By far the most challenging hill the alpine circuit has faced all season, Stowe's steep terrain was no match for the Panther women who turned in by far their best effort of the season. In Friday's giant slalom, first-year Krissie Poehling continued her push toward the top of the podium with a career-best second place finish just over one second behind UVM's Jamie Kingsbury who made it three for three on the year. Following Poehling was Lindsay Brush '07 in seventh and Tara Martin '07 in eighth.

Even more impressive was women's result in Saturday's slalom, placing three finishers in the top five. Megan Hughes '08 and Martin blew away the field en route to their career-bests finishing first and second, respectively, while Lindsay Brush '07 finished fifth, breaking up a string of five UVM racers and notching her sixth top 10 finish in six attempts this season. Hughes' combined time of 1:33.94 gave her a comfortable half-second cushion ahead of Martin and an astounding 2.4-second margin over the third place finisher. First-year Kelly Brush also turned in a solid effort in her first carnival finishing in 14th place.



Courtesy

Middlebury's Peter Phillips '05 carves his way around a gate during the break's carnival action. Panther skiers earned two third place finishes.

"I knew I just had to ski smart in the right places and then let it go where I knew I could gain some time," commented Hughes. "It was such a great feeling to be in the finish area with the rest of our team, we were all so excited."

The men's side also witnessed a few surprises as sophomore Andrew Everett made the most of his first career carnival start. The up-and-coming sophomore led the men to a

second place finish in the slalom with a team-best fifth place followed by Dave Coriell '06 in sixth. Peter Phillips '05 found his best slalom form of the season moving up an incredible 34 places from his starting position to finish 11th. Colby's Warner Nickerson claimed the victory, while Dartmouth's Evan Weiss and UVM's Greg Hardy took second and third, respectively.

Co-captains John Rusten '05 and Phillips led the men in Friday's giant slalom, finishing ninth and tenth, respectively, while Everett scored again for the Panthers in 13th. After struggling in the morning run, Rusten put together the fastest run of the day in the afternoon, and vaulted 11 places to claim his

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Women's hockey chalk up two NESCAC wins

By Anna Christina Furney
STAFF WRITER

The face of Middlebury women's hockey has been a strong presence both on the ice and in the press during the past 10 days. Continuing with a strong record, the women Panther's hockey team continues into the season with a 17-1-1 track record. While the team experienced their first loss of the season against Plattsburgh on Jan. 26, both their players and their team remain strong as they go into

the rest of their NESCAC season. After being faced with their first loss, the girls made a quick turn around in their play — as displayed in their exemplary wins against Connecticut, Amherst, Wesleyan and Trinity.

The week of the 26th was a rough one, as the girls faced number three Plattsburgh in New York State. Going into the second period with a 1-0 advantage over Plattsburgh, the Panthers were faced with a goal by their opponent early in the second. Plattsburgh only

gained momentum as the third period's time wore out — netting two more goals and advancing their lead to 3-1. Tension built as one of Middlebury's top scorers, Lorna Gifis '05 found the back of the goal for the second time in the long evening. But however strong the effort was on the Panther's side, the Plattsburgh women increased their tally in the fourth period to 4-2 and fended off their Middlebury opponent until the game's end.

However disheartening the loss was to the Middlebury women's team, as fans we wouldn't have been able to tell as they led their school to a 9-0 win over the Connecticut Camels on Jan. 28. The Panthers' opponent showed little defense to Middlebury's strong forward attack — and Middlebury's team members used this opportune moments to rack up a high score.

It is evident within the amount of individual scorers that the team remains reliant on the effort of the group as a whole. Six Middlebury women scored throughout the night. While Gifis was relentless in her attack — scoring four goals for the Panthers — five of her teammates also displayed strong play. Middlebury student-athletes Shannon Tarrant '07, Gillian Paul '08, Emily Quizon '05 and Alison Graddock '07 all managed one goal a-piece. Karen Levin '08 and Shannon Sylvester '07 both remained strong in their attack, donating three assists each to the team's impressive score.

Ending the month of January without relent, the Panther women devoured Amherst in a 5-0 win. It was again Gifis who attacked the net. She dispensed two goals within the third

period. Without the aggressive play by teammates, Allison Liati '05, Graddock and Emily McNamara '07 however, the Panthers would have been faced with a much greater challenge. It is apparent amongst the diversity of scorers on the ice that the Middlebury women function as a strong cohesive unit.

It was with their teamwork that they helped two Middlebury players to be honored by within the past weeks. Quizon appeared in the Jan. 27 issue of "Sports Illustrated" amongst fellow student-athletes shown in the "faces in the crowd" section of the publication. Scoring the 100th point of her career during the past week of play, Quizon continues to be a strong contributor to the impressive record of the women's team. Following this honor, came the distinction of NESCAC "Player of the Week" for Gifis. This Middlebury senior's honor was highly deserved. After scoring eight goals within one week of play and contributing to the team's success throughout the entire season, it is hard to ignore her presence on the ice.

With confidence in hand, the team took two wins away from their games against opponents Wesleyan and Trinity. The Wesleyan game on Feb. 4 was lead by individual goals from Panther players Velez, Graddock, Tania Kenney '08, Jackie Cohen '05, Quizon and Gifis.

Middlebury's game against Trinity came and went with just as much ease as their game the day before. Ending the match with an 8-1 score, the Middlebury Panther players displayed their scoring prowess without relent.

SEE WOMEN'S, PAGE 20



Sixiao Huo

First-year defender Nina Daugherty fights for control of the puck against a Wesleyan opponent